



BUILDING ON BRACE

ANNUAL KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI) REPORT
2020-2021

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS FOR THE BRACE PROGRAMME'S GRANT COMPONENT

PROGRAMME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNER



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ACRONYMS

ALNS	Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills	M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
BRSP	Balochistan Rural Support Programme	MHI	Micro Health Insurance
CAT	Community Awareness Toolkit	MIP	Micro Investment Plan
CDD	Community Driven Development	MIS	Management Information System
CIF	Community Investment Fund	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
CIs	Community Institutions	NFR	Note for Record
C&V	Communication and Visibility	NRSP	National Rural Support Programme
CMST	Community Management Skills Training	OPM	Oxford Policy Management
CO	Community Organisation	P&D	Planning and Development
CPI	Community Physical Infrastructure	PIM	Programme Implementation Manual
CRP	Community Resource Person	PMM	Project Monitoring Matrix
EDT	Enterprise Development Training	PSC	Poverty Scorecard
EPM	External Performance Monitoring	QACP	Quality Assurance and Control Plan
EU	European Union	RAC	Research Advisory Committee
EUD	European Union Delegation	RSPN	Rural Support Programmes Network
ER	Expected Result	RSP	Rural Support Programme
GMS	Gender Mainstreaming Strategy	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
GoB	Government of Balochistan	SES	Socioeconomic Survey
HD	Human Dynamics	SPDC	Strategy and Policy Dialogue Committee
IGA	Income Generating Activities	SUCCESS	Sindh Union Council and Community Economic Strengthening
IGG	Income Generating Grant	TA	Technical Assistance
IMI	Institutional Maturity Index	ToR	Terms of Reference
IP	Implementing Partner	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
JDDC	Joint District Development Committee	VDP	Village Development Plan
KPI	Key Performance Indicator	VO	Village Organisation
LG&RDD	Local Government and Rural Development Department	UCDP	Union Council Development Plan
LMST	Leadership and Management		
LSO	Local Support Organisation		



BACKGROUND OF THE BRACE PROGRAMME

Balochistan is Pakistan's largest province in terms of land area, however, it is also the least populated. The sparsely populated region has an abundance of natural resources, yet it bears the second highest incidence of multidimensional poverty after the erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas. The province has not been able to optimally capitalise on its potential owing to a myriad of issues, like failed public policies, poor governance, unstable geopolitical situation, an influx of refugees, rising militancy, security issues, and crippling poverty. Nonetheless, the region and the resilient communities of Balochistan have the potential to overcome these challenges if they work together amongst themselves as well as with local authorities. To facilitate the communities in overcoming these challenges, the European Union (EU) and the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) launched the Balochistan Community Development Programme (BCDP) in 2013 in 40 Union Councils (UCs) of four districts in Balochistan, namely Zhob, Loralai, Khuzdar, and Jhal Magsi. This Programme aimed to improve social service delivery through social mobilisation and building the capacities of communities to organise themselves. The organisations worked in collaboration with local government, local authorities, and other development stakeholders. With a Programme called the Balochistan Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme, the BCDP efforts were scaled up in June 2017 to nine districts and 249 union councils, adding five districts of Kech, Killa Abdullah, Dukki, Pishin, and Washuk on top of the previous four districts. The BRACE Programme is being implemented with the joint efforts of Balochistan

Rural Support Programme (BRSP), National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), Rural Support Programme Network (RSPN), and Human Dynamics (HD). HD enables the Government of Balochistan to strengthen the capacities of local government/authorities to manage and involve communities in the statutory local public sector planning, financing, and implementation processes. The Programme also has a Public Finance Management (PFM) component, led by Oxford Policy Management (OPM), which will assist the Government of Balochistan to cost and fund the community-led development policy framework. Following Dr Akhtar Hameed Khan's principles of Community Driven Development (CDD), BRACE is built on the three-tiered social mobilisation approach. Dr Akhtar Hameed's developmental approach was developed in the 1950s and 60s; was the basis of the Comilla Project in then East Pakistan. It was further refined by Mr Shoaib Sultan Khan under the Daudzai Project in the early 1970s who then implemented it in Gilgit-Chitral region when he led the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) for 12 years. Mr Shoaib continues to advocate for the adoption of the three-tiered social mobilisation framework, which is inspiring people all over the world.

The overall objective of the BRACE Programme is to support the Government of Balochistan in its efforts to reduce the negative impact of economic deprivation, poverty and social inequality, environmental degradation, and climate change, and to develop opportunities by building and empowering resilient communities to participate actively in identifying and implementing socio-economic development

activities on a sustainable basis in partnership with local authorities. Under the BRACE Programme, 1.9 million Pakistani citizens from 300,000 poor rural households in 249 union councils will be mobilised and organised into a network of people's own institutions: 19,129 Community Organisations (COs); 3,103 Village Organisations (VOs); 249 Local Support Organisations (LSOs), 31 tehsil level networks and nine district-level networks (JDDCs). RSPs will then provide support to improve the lives and livelihoods of the organised households, as well as to foster linkages between the community institutions and local government to improve local basic service

delivery. The agreement between the EU and RSPN is to implement the Programme from 30th June 2017 to 29th June 2022. RSPN's role involves facilitating implementation of the Programme through partner RSPs by providing quality control, standardising procedures, developing a common M&E framework, establishing a baseline, providing documentation, responding appropriately to lessons learnt and providing value added strategic backstopping where required. RSPN will also aim at wider dissemination of the lessons learnt through evidence-based advocacy with stakeholders and the media to scale up successful development approaches.

SOCIAL MOBILISATION

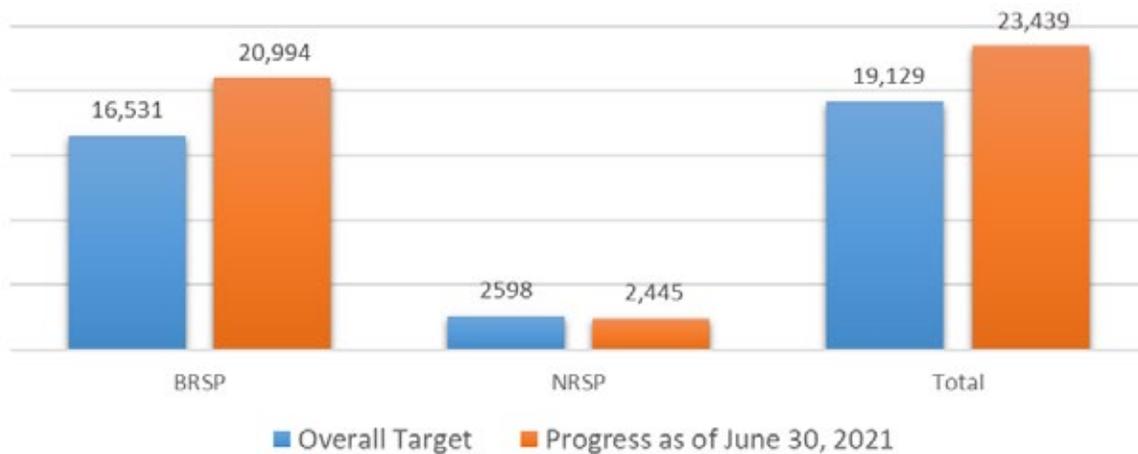
Social mobilisation centres on the belief that poor people have an innate potential to help themselves, that they can better manage their limited resources if they organise themselves and receive technical and financial support. During the fourth year of the Programme, a total of 5,892 Community Organisations (3,114 men COs, 2,745 women COs and 33 mixed COs), or 78% of the annual target of 7,595. By the end of year four, a total of 246,582 HHs have been organised into 23,439 Community Organisations including 12,703 men COs, 10,510 women COs, and 226 mixed Cos. This represents a 23% overachievement of the overall target of

19,129. These COs have been federated into 1,451 VOs (741 men, 645 women & 65 mixed VOs) a 24% overachievement against the annual target of 1,166. In all 4,973 VOs (2,956 men, 1734 women, 280 mixed VOs) have now been federated against the overall target of 3,085, which is a 61% overachievement. The VOs have in turn been federated at Union Council level into 59 LSOs (55 men, four mixed LSOs) against the annual target of 73, 81% of the target. Altogether 230 LSOs have been formed, 94% of the target of 243 LSOs. Overall, the mobilisation efforts and formation of VOs and LSOs increased in the reporting year.

“... the LSO Zaland’s president in district Pishin, in the wake of increasing child abuse cases in the country, arranged four awareness sessions with high school students to inform and motivate them under the “Break the Silence” campaign to speak about sexual assaults and harassment.”

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

Figure 1: Number of Community Organisations (COs) formed



EMERGING IMPACT

The LSOs support the VOs and COs in their UCs and maintain a database of indicators such as population, number of people in different poverty brackets and number of households organised. They support the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) in different Programme, disburse grants; and track the impact of the interventions on the rural poor in their region. The LSOs also mobilise resources from within the community, from non-profit organisations working in the region, as well as from the government. These resources are used to address needs identified by the community and CIs.

“LSO United in Pishin arranged a visit for female students to tourist spots and historical venues of district Ziarat. It also arranged a bus for school pick and drop service for local girls.”

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

A series of documents called “LSO Initiatives” has been launched by RSPN, to showcase the efforts made by the LSOs in identifying and initiating a variety of development projects in different Programme districts. So far, RSPN with the support of RSPs, has produced and disseminated 14 issues of the LSO Initiatives series.

“Several LSOs have carried out drug awareness campaigns considering drug abuse, especially amongst young men and teenagers, has risen significantly during the recent years in the province destroying livelihoods and relationships.”

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The LSO Initiatives series has shown the multiple ways in which the LSOs are supporting the ultra-poor in their communities. Their activities include fighting against the spread of COVID-19 virus; collaborating with the government to build playgrounds, bridges,

flood-protection walls etc.; preparing CNIC and local certificates; providing poor households with solar panels and solar fans; planting trees; installing drip irrigation systems; organising awareness raising campaigns for out of school girls, and many more.

The RSPN-BRACE team visited Loralai in September 2020, as part of their regular visits into the field. They found the social mobilisation in the UC Ponga and UC Nasirabad-2 to be on track. The team’s Note-For-Record shared that “women’s VO, Gulan”, was well aware of the objectives of their VO. When asked why they needed a VO when they had COs, the women replied it was “for bigger problems that could only be discussed at the village level organization, therefore, we formed a platform at village level. Here, we discuss village level issues.” The community institutions organise their monthly meetings with the CRPs. Records of the meetings of the LSOs and VO were quite impressive. Community members had a sound knowledge of the Community Awareness Toolkit sessions.”

On another field visit, this time to UC Sangahi and UC Kunchiti in Kech in December 2020, the RSPN-BRACE team noted that the CI members are well informed about the objective of their CIs and the CI members appreciate it when guests visit their organisations; “when an outsider visits their organisation it enhances their courage and motivation to continue their active participation in the institutions.”

The External Monitoring Mission on their second round of visits appreciated the LSO’s efforts at forming linkages with the line departments. “In the five districts visited, the mission observed a good number of institutions, departments and organisations that the CIs are engaged with. The main examples of such entities include departments of local government, social welfare, health, education, NADRA and PDMA as well as NGOs. LSOs also have strong linkages with parliamentarians from their area who have strong linkages with parliamentarians from their area who

“The mission noted that almost all LSOs exhibit a great spirit of collaboration and collective action as well as enhanced role in development advocacy.”

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have been elected to either the provincial or national assemblies. In a few cases, LSO engagement with the public departments is so strong that they have been requested by the public departments to engage with the community on their behalf. For instance, in district Dukki, the local government department has no facilities for registration of demographic data. Therefore, it requested the LSO Viala Dukki to record the demographic details and prepare a variety of certificates (52) i.e. local residents' certificates, birth and death certificates on behalf of the local government department. Relationships with the social welfare department are especially strong as BRACE engages with them for its work with youth, with persons with disabilities and with women. This is appreciated by the social welfare department given its own lack of outreach and resources.”

Furthermore, a study was conducted by the RSPN Social Mobilisation Specialist, with the support of BRSP, to look in detail at the resources mobilised by the LSOs. “The Power of Social Capital; A Report

“CIs have mobilised approximately PKR 1.34 billion for implementation of hard component interventions and PKR 56.22 million for implementation of Soft Component activities, from different external agencies”

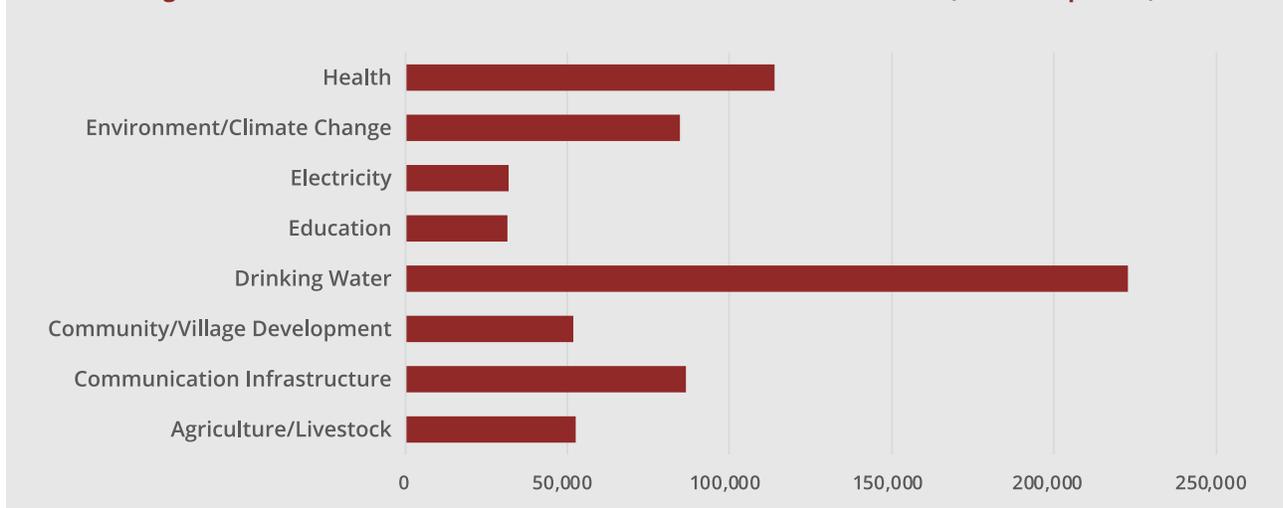
- REPORT ON THE “POWER OF SOCIAL CAPITAL”

on LSOs Fostering Development Linkages with Government and Non-Government Agencies in BRACE Programme Districts of BRSP” looked in detail at how the resources mobilised were used by the CIs to initiate hard and soft programme components in different UCs.

The report found the CIs to have successfully mobilised approximately PKR 1.34 billion to implement hard component interventions and PKR 56.22 million for soft component activities. “This says a lot about their resource mobilisation expertise and self-help initiatives to strengthen the public service structure and contribute to improving the local governance. This also shows that there is huge potential for fund raising, and if RSPs strengthen their fund-raising capacities, they can perform even better.”

Hard Components

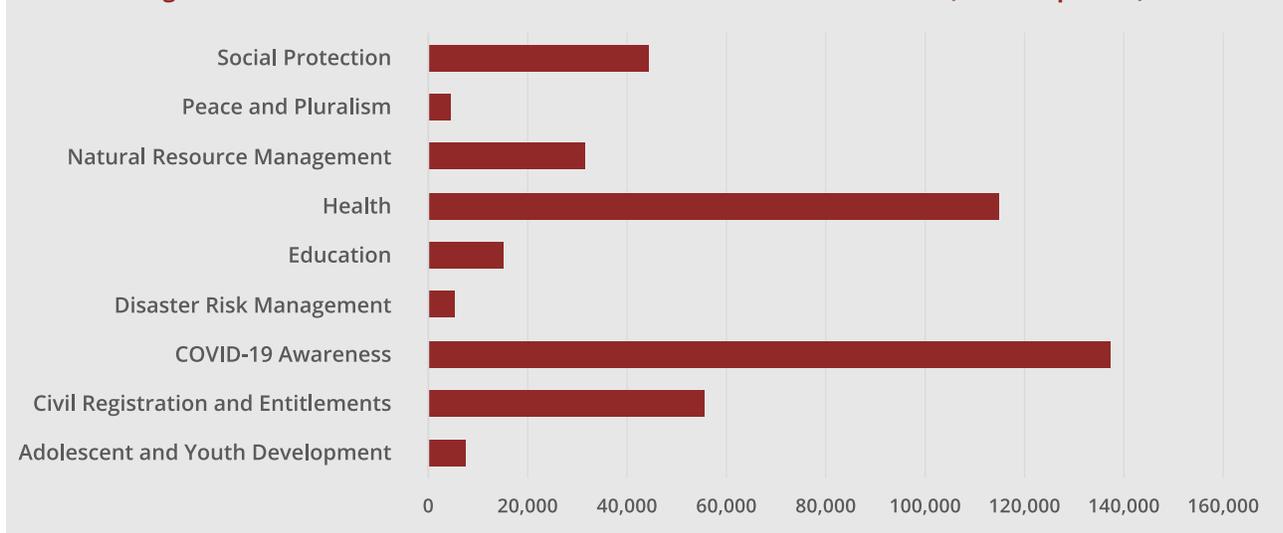
The study found that “the largest amount of money has been accessed by the LSOs for education initiatives (21.60%) followed by environment/climate change initiatives (18.95%) and Drinking Water (18.82%). The smallest amount was accessed for electricity (3.46%) and healthcare initiatives (3.51%). However, in terms of numbers of beneficiaries, as seen in figure 2, drinking water initiatives tops the list with 222,820 beneficiaries, followed by 113,787 health care beneficiaries. These results show a) the priority of infrastructure development needs of the communities, and b) availability of resources within Government to invest in the priority sectors. In terms of sources of funds, MNA/MPA and the health department top the list with 19% each, followed by the education department with 14%. The lowest amount has been accessed from the energy department.”

Figure 2: Number of Beneficiaries for each sector of LSO's Interventions (Hard Component)

Soft Components

For district-wise and sector-wise resource mobilisation by LSOs to implement soft component development activities, the largest amount of money by far was raised for social protection sector activities (95% of total), followed by the Adolescent and Youth Development interventions. However, in terms

of number of beneficiaries, as shown in figure 3, COVID-19 awareness tops the list, followed by health interventions. With respect to the main sources of resources provided to the LSOs for soft development activities, the BISP EHSAAAS Emergency Cash Grant topped the list, followed by Local Government. However, in terms of the number of beneficiaries, the Health Department, followed by NADRA, top the list."

Figure 3: Number of Beneficiaries for each sector of LSO's Interventions (Soft Component)

LSO in Dukki teams up with MPA to provide Drinking Water Supply Schemes to three villages

Availability of potable water is very rare in UC Gharbi Thal, which creates serious health and hygiene issues for the LSO members. The issue was discussed in an LSO meeting and the LSO leaders decided to seek the help of their Member of the Provincial Assembly (MPA), to resolve their problem. The LSO leaders met with the MPA and briefed him about the issue and requested his help in getting financial support for the installation of water supply projects powered by solar energy. After conducting several coordination meetings with the MPA, he approved the water supply scheme with solar panels for the three villages of the UC, namely village Malak Safar Khan, village Yaro Shaher and village Malak Azam Khan. All three projects have been completed. The water supply projects are providing clean water to 380 households. The cost of the three projects is PKR 6.7 million. All three schemes were implemented by a Government Contractor.

PLANNING FOR DEVELOPMENT

The BRACE Programme aims to enable the CIs to identify the needs of the local community and make plans to carry out development activities.

In the reporting year, 69,211 (71% of the annual target of 98,011) Micro Investment Plans (MIPs) have been developed by the households. Overall, 254,094 MIPs have been developed, (73% of the overall target). 1,056 (84% of the annual target) Village Development Plans (VDPs) have been developed. Overall, 2,775 (90% of the target of 3,085) VDPs have been developed by the VOs. LSOs have consolidated 31 (41% of the annual target of 75) plans at Union Council level, in participation with local authorities, into Union Council Development Plan (UCDPs). Overall, 204 out of 243 LSOs have consolidated their UCDPs, 84% of the target.

Joint District Development Committees (JDDC) serve as an innovative platform where CIs can advocate for access to essential public services and for planning, implementation and monitoring of local development plans. The JDDCs at the district and tehsil levels in BRACE include representatives of government departments, local government, community institutions, RSPs and civil society organisations. At district level, the JDDC is chaired by the concerned Deputy Commissioner. Joint

Development Committees (JDCs) have been formed in all Programme districts, nine at district level and 34 at tehsil level, and notified by the respective Deputy Commissioners (DCs). At district level JDCs have conducted 49 quarterly meeting against the target of 73 for the fourth year (a 67% achievement). At tehsil level, 18 JDC meetings have been held, against a target of 52. The low achievements in terms of JDC meetings is mainly attributed to the restriction on gatherings imposed by GoB due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

EMERGING IMPACT

The study on “Community Livelihood Enhancement through CIF, IGGs and TVET for Poor Households under the EU-funded BRACE Programme” appreciated how the BRACE Programme gives the rural poor agency to plan for and execute development activities. It reported, “what the RSPs do differently from most other organisations is to avoid imposing their decisions on the poor. While some look to distant statistical evidence and others to mapping and socio-economic research, the RSPs employ household-based consultation for identifying opportunities.”

The external monitoring mission identified that by a more thorough record keeping, the JDDCs can become efficient and inclusive.



CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

The Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT), developed by RSPN with the support of RSPs, aims to sensitise and capacitate the rural women and men on cross-cutting issues that require immediate attention. The CRPs, trained under the BRACE Programme conduct CAT sessions at the monthly CO meetings. They create awareness in COs on issues including primary health, education, sanitation, HIV/AIDS, climate change adaptation, child protection, gender mainstreaming and, civic and political rights.

In the reporting year, CRPs have conducted 10,200 community awareness sessions as outlined in the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) on cross-cutting social issues with participation of 137,749 (33,069 men, 104,680 women) community members. These who have started incorporating activities in their Village Development Plans (VDPs) to address these issues. Altogether, 336,699 participants (194,866 women, 141,833 men) have been sensitised on cross-cutting themes in 32,820 CAT sessions.

EMERGING IMPACT

The Community Resource Persons have delivered

“Discussions with women in the field [also] indicate that women have found the sessions on health and hygiene and mother and child health to be the most useful and relevant.”

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

additional awareness sessions on the prevention of, and SOPs against, COVID-19. Although the EMM highlighted a need for the RSPs to conduct a more thorough study on the impact of the CAT sessions, they also established that the women were finding some sessions to be very useful. As per the recommendations made by the EMM, RSPN has planned refresher Training of Trainer (ToT) sessions for the Social Organisers and Capacity Building Officers for each RSP.

The beneficiaries in Kech shared their views on the CAT sessions with the RSPN-BRACE team when the latter visited the district in December 2020 on one of their regular field visits; “it was shared that the trainings have improved their understanding on the need for CNIC registration, birth registration and the importance of children’s education.”



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LEADERSHIP UNDER THE BRACE PROGRAMME

To enhance the knowledge and capabilities of the office bearers of Community Institutions (CIs) in planning and managing their developmental activities and to utilise the available local resources, multiple types of trainings are designed for CI office bearers. These include Community Management Skills Training (CMST) for office bearers of COs, Leadership Management Skills Training (LMST) for VOs and LSOs, training of Community Resource Persons (CRPs) and Activist Workshops. The training modules are developed by RSPN in partnership with RSPs with the aim to enhance the local leadership potential in the communities. The course develops the capacity of the local leaders to develop concepts, learn leadership and management skills, address development barriers, understand the benefits of the three-tier social mobilization system and acquire presentation and communication skills. The community managerial trainings have resulted in building the confidence of community leaders by strengthening their capacities to identify their

problems and decide priorities on their own.

In year four, 5,607 (3,069 women, 2,538 men) CO office bearers have been trained on the CMST module (41% of the annual target of 13,546). Overall, 30,318 (79% against the overall target of 38,258) office bearers have participated in the CMST over the last four years. Out of the total trained community leaders, 14,184 (47%) are women and 16,134 (53%) are men. Similarly, 922 (37% of the annual target of 2,526) office bearers of VOs and LSOs have been participated in the LMST. Overall, 5,054 (76% of the target) office bearers of LSOs and VOs have been trained against the overall target of 6,656. Out of the total number of trained community leaders, 3,188 (63%) are men and 1,866 (37%) are women. In the reporting year, CRPs have conducted 10,200 community awareness sessions as outlined in the Community Awareness Toolkit (CAT) on cross-cutting social issues with participation of 137,749 (33,069 men, 104,680 women) community members who

Figure 4: Number of community members trained as Community Resource Persons (CRPs)

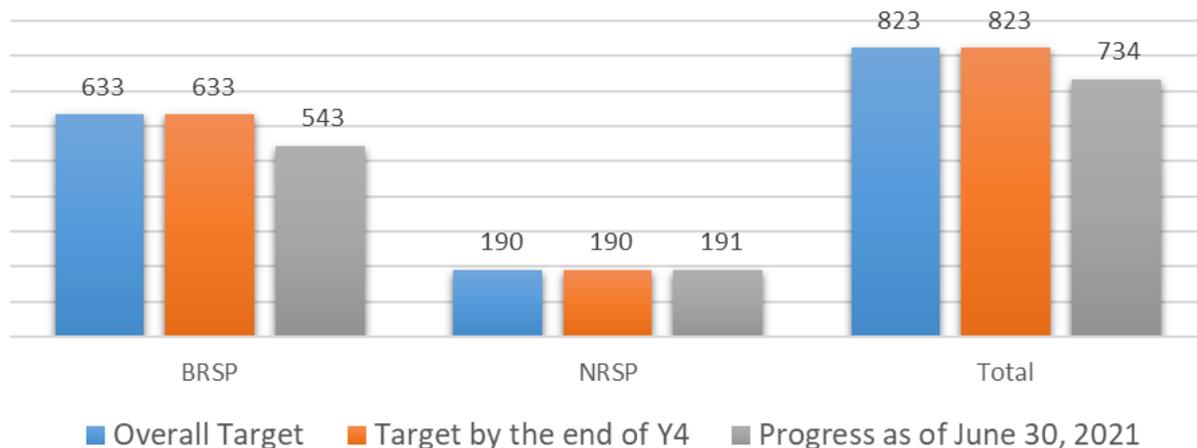
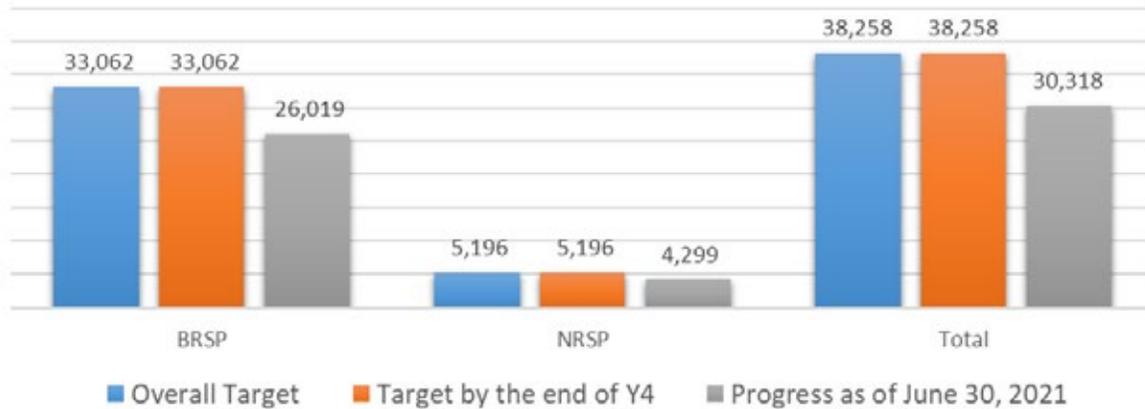


Figure 5: Number of participants trained in Community Management and Skill Training (CMST)

have started incorporating activities in their Village Development Plans (VDPs) to address these issues. Altogether, 336,699 participants (194,866 women, 141,833 men) have been sensitised on cross-cutting themes in 32,820 CAT sessions. BRACE Programme currently has 734 CRPs (386 men and 348 women).

EMERGING IMPACT

The External Monitoring Mission found that the CIs who have been trained and have been on exposure visits are "functioning better and progressing well in terms of linkages development and reducing their dependency on RSPs and BRACE as observed in CIs like LSO Zaland in Pishin, Iqra in Killa Abdullah, Sedor in Washuk and

"Initially, women in village Mariabad were not even willing to allow the NRSP staff to conduct surveys. Now, we have four women VOs in the same area. The trainings here also endorse women's inclusion on community institutions."

- SHARES NAILA, PRESIDENT OF LSO SARI, AND PARTICIPANT AT THE LEADERSHIP MANAGEMENT SKILLS TRAINING, KECH

"... more confident, knowledgeable and is communicating well with other stakeholders..."

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION ON THE LSO AND VO LEADERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE LMST

Shorma in Kech". They also praised the leaders of LSOs and VOs who have received the LMST.

The RSPN-BRACE team attended the first day of Leadership Management Skills Training in Mir Ghulam Rasool village of UC Sari Khan, Kech, in December 2020. The three-day training was attended by leaders from eight VOS (six women and two mixed). Each VO was represented by a manager and president of the VO. The participants discussed important topics such as how to make the discussions held in CI meetings more inclusive, how to advocate for CNIC registration, how to ensure women are included in the process of voting, how to instil confidence in children, etc. The RSPN-BRACE team noticed that "all the presenters were very confident and seemed to grasp the concepts well. The training followed the LMST handout and the participants seemed to use the resources efficiently. Furthermore, all the participants were engaged in a two-way conversation, showing ownership."



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING

In the reporting year, 892 persons (144 men, 748 women) were trained in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET), 40% against the annual target of 2,898. Overall, 1,941 community members have received TVET, out of which 65% beneficiaries are women. Despite mobility constraints for women both RSPs have made remarkable progress in including women in the TVET component of the BRACE Programme. A majority of women beneficiaries opted for traditional trades, i.e. garment (tailoring, embroidery, etc.) and beauty parlour courses. The TVET curriculum also covers other trades including digital printing and tie and dye and tappa, food processing, mobile phone repair, electronic and computer repair, auto mechanic, auto electrician, motorcycle repair, motor winding, and air conditioner, refrigerator repair, etc.

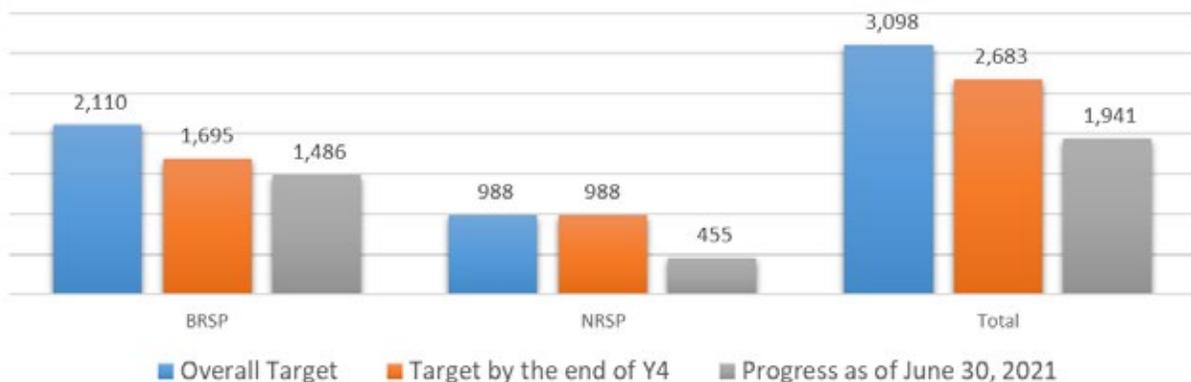
EMERGING IMPACT

On their second round of visits, EMM visited two functioning TVET centres for females in UC Gharbi Thal and UC Viala Dukki in district Dukki. They noticed that the centres had the necessary resources, i.e. fabric and sewing machines; the trainers were paid in a timely manner, and the timings at the centre were flexible to cater to the women's schedules. Furthermore, "trainers reported that they are assisted by the LSOs in identifying deserving candidates i.e. those with PSC scores ranging from 0-23. A few of the students were reported as ultra-poor with no earning

"Students claimed that upon completion of the course they cannot only cut and stitch their own clothes but can also get local orders and generate additional income."

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

Figure 6: Community members enrolled for Technical, Vocational and Educational Trainings (TVET)

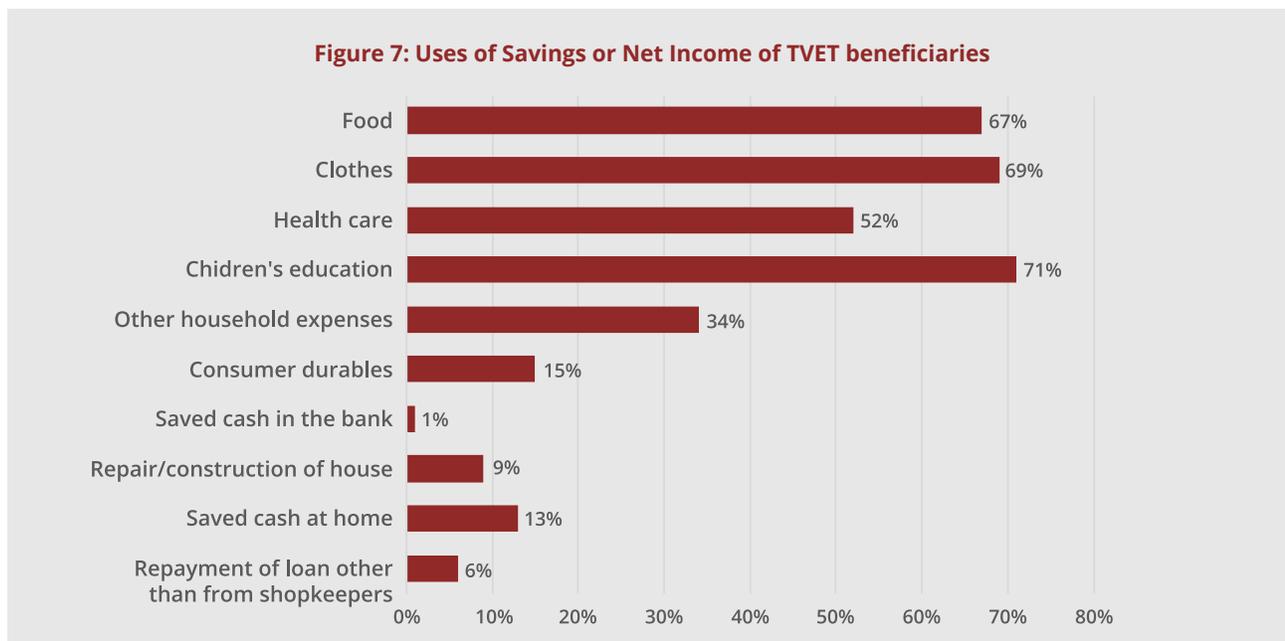


member in the family. A few students we met with reportedly lacked even basic stitching and cutting skills when they joined but were observed to be operating the sewing machines quite adeptly during the field visits.”

The Thematic Study on “Community Livelihood Enhancement through CIF, IGGs and TVET for Poor Households under the EU-funded BRACE Programme” conducted by IPOR Consultants, shared some insightful findings on the TVET intervention.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

During the fourth year, a Community Investment Fund (CIF) of PKR 2 million was provided to each of the 17 LSOs as a revolving fund to generate economic activity for poor households’ members. This is a 14% achievement against the annual target of 118. Altogether 129 LSOs have received a CIF which is a 57% achievement against the overall target of 226. A total of 2,074 beneficiaries have taken CIF loans which is 18% of achievement against the target of 11,455



The study sample of 1,063 women and men (IGG, CIF and TVET) beneficiaries and 311 non-beneficiaries, was based in Loralai, Kech, and Khuzdar. For the TVET Programme, the survey results showed an average income increase (net of cost) of PKR 3,300 per month, which is the equivalent of 16% of the average monthly household income of TVET beneficiaries.

Qualitative evidence suggests that TVET-related income helped improve food consumption for all household members (including children), access to health care, and children’s education.

for year four of the Programme. Altogether, 2,703 CIF beneficiaries out of the total are women and 949 are men. The CIF disbursement is behind target due to the challenges of registering CIs and opening bank accounts, which has been resolved in the last quarter of Year 3. Since then the rate of CIF disbursement has increased.

Building a Future for her Family; Hameeda's Story

40-year-old Hameeda, is a mother to seven children. She has a poverty score of 21. Six years ago, Hameeda's husband used to work as a repair man in the city, where his 18-year-old, second to eldest son, Raziq helped him as an apprentice. However, her husband started abusing drugs and lost his job. He now works part-time as a mason on a daily wage basis and earns only PKR 400 to 500 per week. "90% of this menial income too, he spends on buying drugs", shares Hameeda. Given that her husband was the only earner in the family of nine, Hameeda struggled to make ends meet, often borrowing from her relatives to provide food to the family.

Hameeda is a member of CO Asghar Muhalla. At one of her monthly meetings, she found she is eligible for a Community Investment Fund loan. She happily borrowed PKR 50, 000 from the revolving fund with a plan to invest in her son, who had five years of experience working at a motorcycle repair shop with her husband. She was confident she could support Raziq in earning an income to support the family. After receiving her loan in December 2020, Hameeda purchased tools for a motorcycle repair shop the same month and set up a shop in a vacant room outside her brother's house. "This is the only motorcycle repair workshop in the village", said Raziq's uncle.

Hameeda and Raziq's shop has been a success! The shop is open every day of the week except Friday. It earns a profit of PKR 10,000 to PKR 15, 000 every month, part of which is used to return the loan to her community institution. Hameeda gives an instalment of PKR 2,800 every month and has already paid nine out of 18 instalments of her loan. The remaining amount from the profit is used to run the household and pay for her other children's education.

His uncle added, "the best part is that Raziq is no longer free and aimless; he was uninterested in his studies when he was younger so he did not complete his education. Now he has employment and purpose in his life. He is not at risk of getting addicted to drugs anymore."

Hameeda, who had been shy so far, beamed when we asked her how she feels about Raziq running a business. "I'm so proud of Raziq, my feelings can't be put into words"

EMERGING IMPACT

The study on Community Livelihood Enhancement through CIF, IGGs and TVET for Poor Households under the EU-funded BRACE Programme found that beneficiaries were using the CIF loans for different income generating activities depending on their districts.

The study found that where IGG recipients show a strong preference for livestock, the CIF borrowers often use the grants for agriculture inputs.

CIF beneficiaries reported an average income increase (net of cost) of PKR 1,600 per month, which is the equivalent of 11% of their average monthly household income, as estimated by the survey.

The CIF borrowers are investing their net income in food, clothes, health care and children's education. Beneficiaries in Focus Group Discussions suggested that CIF-related income helped improve food consumption for all household members (including children), access to health care, and children's education, but CRPs and LSO members did not corroborate these findings.

Figure 8: Utilising the CIF loans for different income generating activities

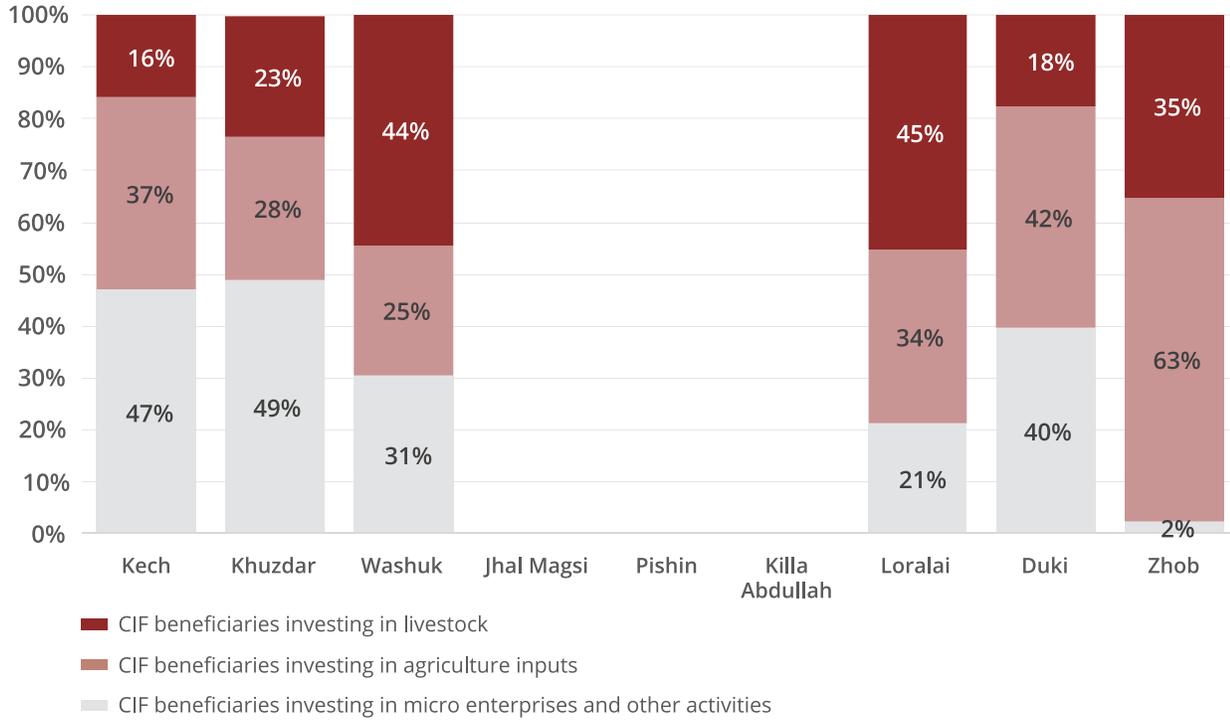
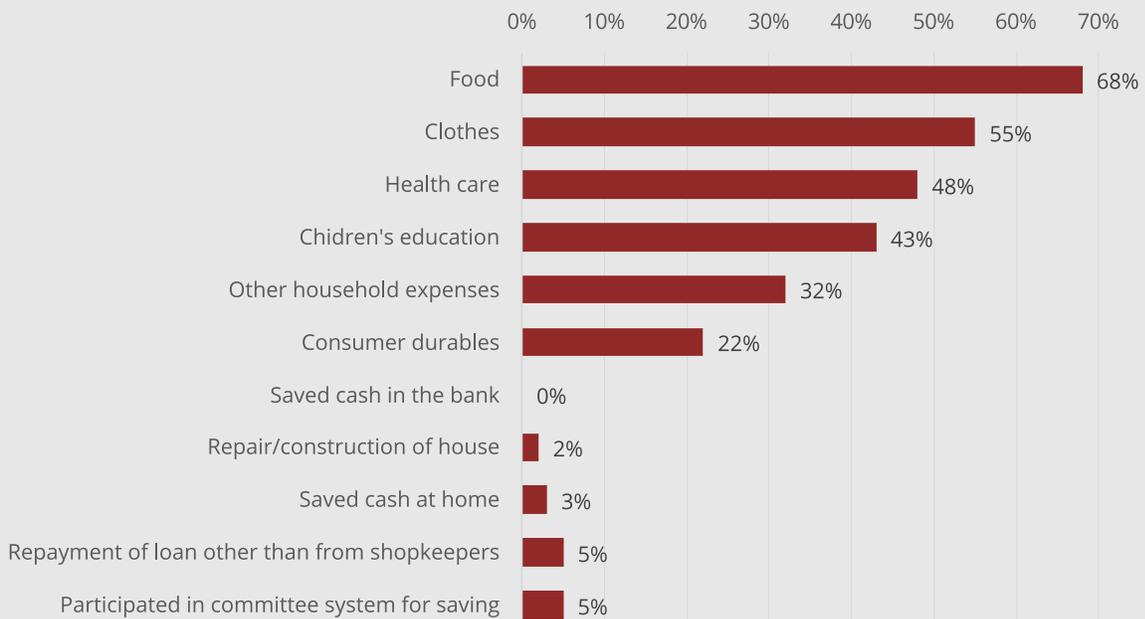


Figure 9: Uses of savings or net income of CIF beneficiaries



INCOME GENERATING GRANT

During year four, 1,227 (17%) against the target of 5,898 poorest households received Income Generating Grants (IGGs) from their VOs/LSOs. Overall, 6,565 poor households have now received IGGs which is a 50% achievement against the overall target. Out of total IGG beneficiaries, 93% were women and 2% Persons with Special Needs were provided IGG.

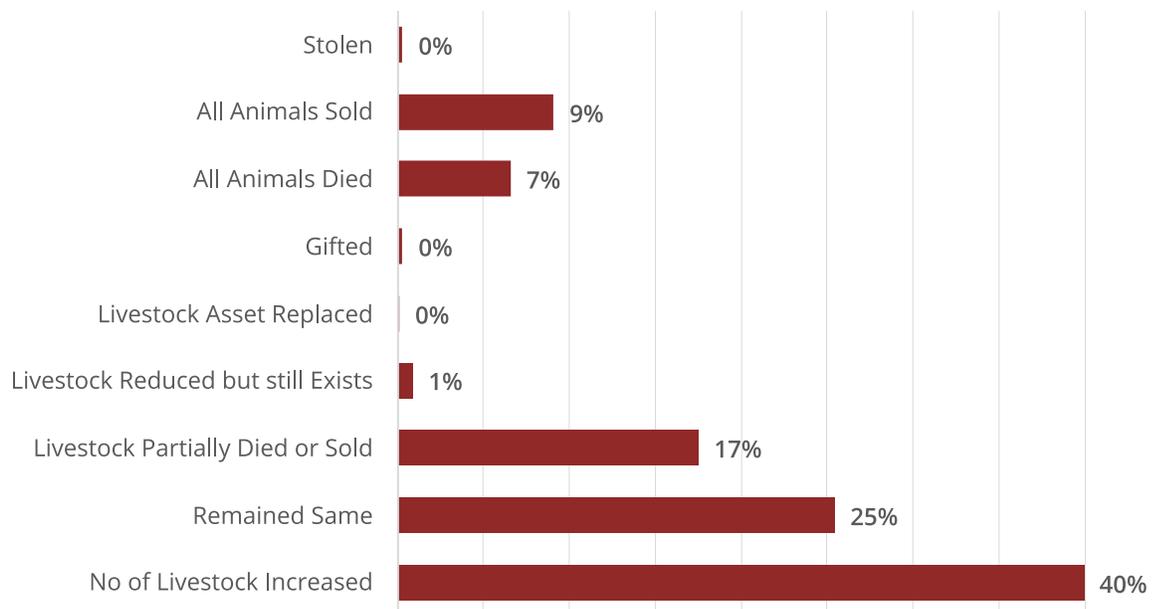
INCOME GENERATING GRANT VERIFICATION EXERCISE

RSPN, with the support of implementing RSPs, led an IGG Verification Exercise in March-June 2021. A sample of 1,553 IGGs, i.e. 30% of the total IGG beneficiaries reported as of 31st December 2020, were assessed by BRSP and NRSP staff. For this, RSPN formulated the objective, assessment approach and methodology, including the sampling of IGGs and developed the assessment tools. RSPN conducted a 15% spot check

of the total sample assessed by RSP staff. Overall, against the given sample of 1,553, BRSP and NRSP were able to collect data for 1,366 IGG beneficiaries (89% women). The RSPN-BRACE team was able to validate 221 of 233 target beneficiaries for the spot check exercise. 202 of the 221 available beneficiaries were women (91%), while 19 were men (9%). The RSPN- BRACE team found that 72% of all assessments done were accurate, while 28% were inaccurate in this spot-check sample. To ensure higher accuracy, the RSPN team recommended that the BRSP head office re do te Assessment for the entire district of Pishin and some UCs in Zhob, as a result of which, more than 150 IGG beneficiaries under robust supervision of M&E officials based at their head office, were interviewed again.

The IGG Verification exercise showed that 94% of the IGG beneficiaries interviewed by the RSPs, remembered their Enterprise Development Training.

Figure 10: Status of Income Generating Grant used to buy Livestock



As shown in figure 10, the exercise found that for IGG beneficiaries who opted to use the grant for livestock, 40% were able to expand this enterprise as the number of livestock increased. For 25% of the IGG beneficiaries, who opted for livestock to generate income, the number of livestock remained the same, while for 17% part of the livestock was sold or died.

The Reasons for loss of livestock include death of goats because of an epidemic; inaccessibility and lack of knowledge about veterinary facilities, death of livestock while giving birth, premature selling of livestock to meet household needs or to build a room in the house, death of livestock in drought season, etc.

35% of the IGG beneficiaries who opted to use the grant to start a micro-enterprise saw an increase in their income as well as stock. 27% of micro-enterprise beneficiaries saw an increase in income. 15% of the beneficiaries sold the entirety of the asset. Reasons for selling the asset include: to meet emergency household needs, the enterprise incurring a loss, loss of business due to the COVID-19 pandemic, death of the beneficiary, failure to reinvest etc.

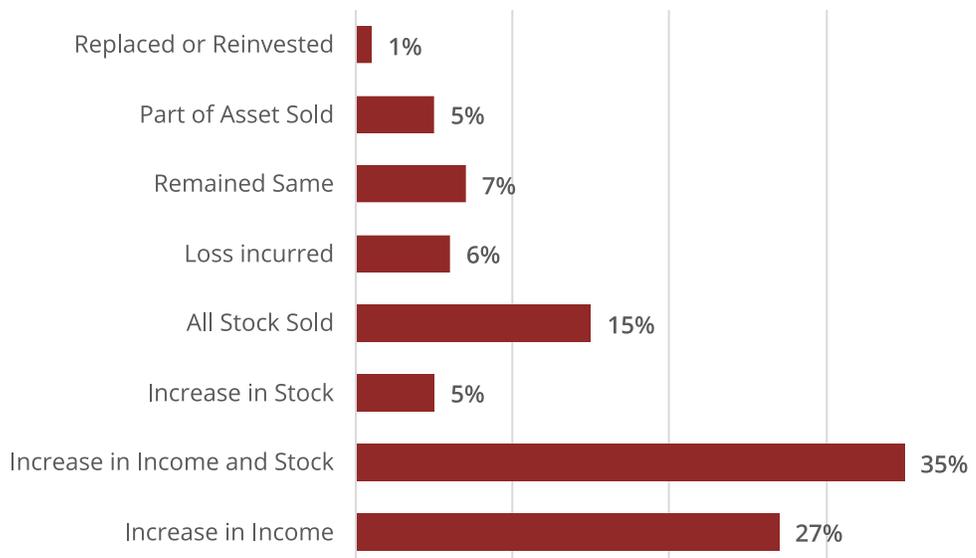
For beneficiaries who opted for agriculture inputs, i.e. using their IGG to purchase solar plates to irrigate

their agrarian land, 57% of the beneficiaries saw an increase in their income due to the IGG asset. 29% of the beneficiaries saw an increase in their income as well as their stock. For 21% of the beneficiaries, their situation remained the same.

The spot check exercise, conducted by the RSPN-BRACE team, showed that 87% of the beneficiaries were able to maintain their IGG asset, while 13% were not. The beneficiaries who maintained their assets were found to be utilising the lessons learnt during Enterprise Development Training (EDT) as well as prioritising reinvesting the profits into the income generating activity rather than consuming them for their everyday needs.

For the 13% of beneficiaries, who were unable to maintain their asset, the reasons included the area being hit by a drought, reducing grazing pastures and water for livestock; the beneficiaries being given livestock which were already sick; livestock being stolen, etc. RSPN shared their findings and made recommendations to the RSPs. Together with both RSPs, RSPN developed an Action Plan to implement these recommendations to further the improve the IGG component.

Figure 11: Status of Income Generating Grant used for Micro Enterprise



EMERGING IMPACT

The Thematic Study on Community Livelihood Enhancement through CIF, IGGs and TVET for Poor Households under the EU-funded BRACE Programme found that “the disbursement by LSOs/VOs to CO members was 100% of the amount made available to the LSOs/VOs in the eight BRSP districts and 94% in Kech”. This points to how the IGG intervention is well received and the LSOs are efficiently rolling out these grants to benefit the poor in their communities.

“IGG beneficiaries reported an average income increase (net of cost) of PKR 3,100 per month, which is the equivalent of 23% of their average monthly household income, as estimated by the survey. Qualitative evidence suggests that IGG-related income helped improve food consumption for all household members (including children), access to health care, and children’s education”, shared the report.

Sana’s Entrepreneurial Spirit

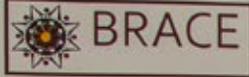
35-year-old Sana has a Poverty Score of 12 and is mother to four children, the eldest one being 17 years old and the youngest one seven years old. She is expecting a fifth child. Her husband is disabled since birth and has limited mobility. She is a member of Community Organisation Gabon Centre Female, which was created in 2018.

Sana found she was eligible for an Income Generating Grant under the EU-funded BRACE Programme and decided to use the funds to re-stock her shop which was functional since 2007. She received PKR 33,400 in 2019 and invested it all in buying stock for her shop. While she previously depended on her brothers and her husband’s family to support them financially, Sana now earns up to PKR 15,000 every month.

Two months ago, she invested in a refrigerator, which costs PKR 70,000. She had been saving her salary from working as a Community Resource Person, as well as the family’s earnings from the shop. She used these savings to pay PKR 40,000 upfront for the refrigerator and is paying the remaining PKR 30,000 in monthly installments of PKR 5,000, using the profit from the shop.

With an improved financial situation at home, she has started investing in her children’s education. She is also taking care of her health and has been able to go to the hospital for regular antenatal checkups, twice already.

Sana has also expanded her micro enterprise. She purchased casters to make kulfi (milk based ice cream) and has been making them at home. She makes 60-70 kulfis every night with her two children and sells them for PKR 5 each. “If you come again in the evening, they will all be sold out”, she said proudly as we looked at the few remaining kulfis in her freezer.



بلوچستان دیہی ترقی و سماجی تقویت پروگرام

سکیم کا نام: آبنوشی

یونین کونسل: کمالزئی گاؤں: کمالزئی دیہی تنظیم: پاک

کل لاگت: 2,446,600 روپے یورپی یونین کا حصہ: 1,957,280

تنظیم کا حصہ: 489,320 روپے مستفید افراد: 12,650

سکیم شروع ہونے کی تاریخ: 16/05/2020 سکیم مکمل ہونے کی تاریخ:

یہ سکیم دیہی تنظیم نے یررپی یونین اور بی آریس پی کی معاونت سے مکمل کی

COMMUNITY PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1,078 (296%) Community Physical Infrastructure (CPIs) have been identified by CIs. This reflects the dire need for CPI schemes in the communities where the BRACE Programme is working. The technical, financial, and environmental feasibility studies of 260 (82%) infrastructure schemes have been evaluated, and 217 (83% of the feasible schemes) approved by Joint District Development Committees. In the reporting year, 33 CPIs (a 24% achievement against the annual target) have been initiated. Overall, 213 CPIs have been initiated which is a 59% achievement against the overall target of 363. Total, 99 CPI schemes have been completed and are functional which is a 31% achievement against the overall target of 363. So far, 10,644 households including 56,901 community members (26,944 men and 29,957 women) are benefitting from the completed CPIs schemes.

To address the issues identified by the EMM, RSPN led an assessment of all initiated and completed CPI schemes in BRACE Programme districts. For this, RSPN hired a senior technical expert to conduct a thorough technical quality assessment of 201 CPI schemes, against a target of 209 schemes. The consultant provided onsite training for field engineers as well as a training after his visit to help them understand basic principles of good construction that were overlooked. He also reviewed their manuals and documentation and provided guidance on improving it. Engineering staff in RSPs are now better capacitated to support the VOs in the construction and maintenance of CPI schemes. Recommendations from the assessment exercise are being addressed and regularly tracked by the senior management of RSPN and partner RSPs.

EMERGING IMPACT

The EMM reported some gaps in the CPI schemes which have been addressed by the RSPs under the guidance of the senior technical expert.

Other than these, the RSPN-BRACE team, on their regular field visits has found the beneficiaries to be happy with the benefits of the CPI schemes. The visiting team conducted group discussions with two groups, the O&M committee members and the rest of LSO members on the outcomes and impact of water supply scheme in the Kunchiti Magribi, Kech. The team identified three types of social benefits of the Water Supply Scheme.

“Active female participation in physical infrastructure management, procurement and maintenance sub-committees was observed in a number of cases in Kech. Women were at ease discussing procurement issues, the quality of work and how to retain labour.”

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

Gender and Timesaving: The discussion revealed that women were mainly responsible for collecting water. Spending long hours every day collecting water deprives one of potential opportunities for other productive activities. Therefore, the scheme had a significant timesaving benefit for women. Women utilised the hours saved by the CPI water schemes in embroidery work and other activities at home. Even if the women spent time on activities that are not directly related to income generation, activities such as looking after children, cleaning houses, personal and household hygiene might have an indirect impact on the households' human resources.

In addition, women are active members in the LSO and also in O&M Committee. The latter is responsible for the management and maintenance of water supply schemes in the community. This provided opportunities for women to be in positions of community leadership.

An Operations and Maintenance training for CPIs was attended by five CIs in Kech in December 2020. Sabrina, a participant at the training, explains how the CIs spearhead the process of resource mobilisation from within the community to contribute money to the CPI project.

“Availability of clean, drinking water was a grave issue in our village Sangahi, as women had to walk up to 2 km per day to the communal rope well and then carry the water on their heads or on donkeys to their homes. The residents of the village were delighted when they heard about the water supply scheme in their village; the CI was able to collect PKR 1800 from each household within three days.”

- SABRINA, CO AMALANI

Community Management: The field team observed a sense of ownership and participation in the decision making process among the community. The O&M Committee and Project Committee members were elected by the LSO members. The committees also have arbitration and mediation roles to solve disputes over water use and have set timings for each water supply line. They also have needs-based special arrangements for an extended water supply time on the occasions of weddings and funerals. Further, the LSO members provide recommendations and this organised structure contributes to a sustainable water management system in the villages that could have long-term impacts on the sustainability of the schemes and also empowerment of the community involved.

Dietary Improvements: Families have grown vegetables in the proximity of their water taps. This results in dietary changes in the households which demonstrates how closer access to water has helped improve and diversify households' diets.



WOMEN IN THE BRACE PROGRAMME

The BRACE Programme continues to support the empowering of rural women in Programme districts. This is done via social mobilisation: encouraging them to plan for development activities in the region; providing trainings to CRPs and community leaders to capacitate them; providing livelihood interventions like IGG, CIF and TVET; and providing learning opportunities through the ALNS programme, etc.

The EMM on their second mission noted that the absence of women at LSO level in multiple Programme districts is indeed a challenge for the BRACE Programme. However, they were appreciative of NRSP's efforts at forming women-led and mixed CIs; "formation of mixed VOs and LSOs led by women shows the enormous change resulting from the sustained efforts of NRSP in district Kech; the RSP has constantly pushed for female empowerment over the three decades it has worked there."

For women-led CIs in both RSPs' districts they found the women CIs to be diligently keeping records of the meetings held and efforts made by the women to form and run VOs. The women CIs were also noticed to be successfully identifying issues faced by women in the community. These issues are recorded in meeting minutes for future actions.

"Despite [these] restrictions on women's mobility, there are many encouraging examples of how

communities at large have been mobilised to include women in social mobilisation processes. The formation of female COs and VOs in the districts visited is indicative of the slow but steady change taking place. The needs prioritised by women VOs are partially reflected in VDPs and UCDPs. Women VOs have reported that they have participated in the process of identifying beneficiaries for IGGs, CIF and other interventions such as selecting beneficiaries for ALNS and TVET centres.", shared the EMM report.

ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS TRAINING

Balochistan is lagging behind other provinces of Pakistan on female literacy indicators. To remedy this, and while appreciating the multi-layered benefits of a literate female population, BRACE aims to provide the rural, poor women with adult literacy and numeracy skills. This six-month long course ends with women taking a grade-three exam administered by Balochistan Assessment and Examination Commission (BAEC).

During the reporting year, 4,141 women completed ALNS training. In total 9,877 learners are enrolled/ have completed ALNS against the overall target of 10,720 which represents a 92% achievement.

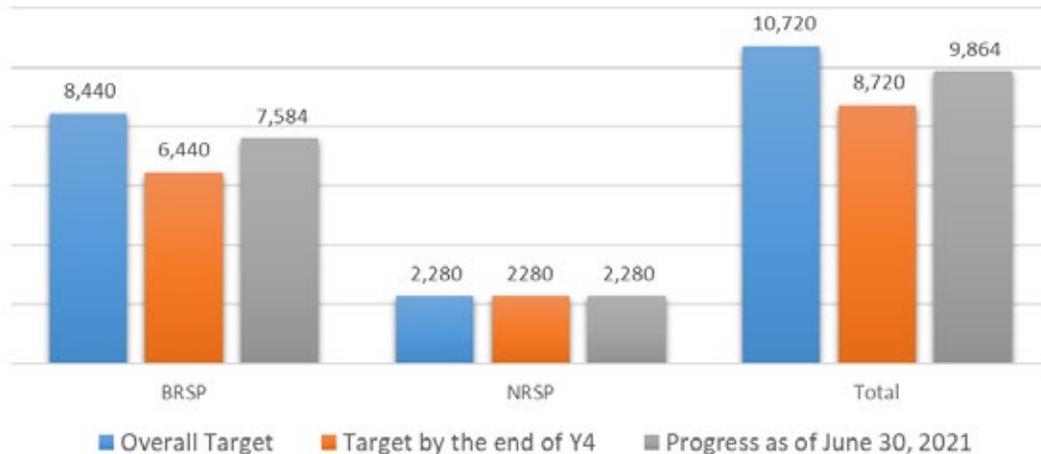
EMERGING IMPACT

The EMM on their second round of monitoring visits, looked closely at one UC each from Kech, Pishin, Killa Abdulah and Dukki.

Their indicators included the selection of ALNS centre as per criteria; selection of ALNS teacher as

"In many cases, this is the first time women have ever formally organised into community level institutions. A good effort has been made by BRACE to achieve the ambitious targets set for female participation in social mobilisation."

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

Figure 12: Number of Community Members Trained on Adult Literacy & Numeracy Skills

per criteria; provision of training material; timely payment to ALNS teachers; record keeping at ALNS centre; Programme staff conducting monthly monitoring visits, and final assessment conducted by the non-formal education department. Other than two exceptional cases (one-month delay in payment to an ALNS teacher and non-availability of records at the ALNS centre), the EMM found the ALNS intervention to be a great success.

The EMM noted that the ALNS intervention had a positive impact on the women in the rural communities; it instilled confidence in them and encouraged them to complete the schooling that they had discontinued in their childhood.

The EMM report shared, “the ALNS programme is helping women to understand the importance of reading, writing and numeracy skills. The programme

“Females who attended the adult literacy and numeracy skills (ALNS) centres have appreciated the courses, and proudly spell out words or write their names. While it may seem a small achievement, it has contributed to a sense of empowerment in communities with abysmal female literacy rates. There is demand for such centres to continue and indeed they do provide women a safe venue to interact with and learn from one another.”

- EXTERNAL MONITORING MISSION

is reported to have sparked an interest in some women to complete their primary school education. Four ALNS learners in Shapuk village, district Kech aim to appear for Grade 5 examinations, following which they would be able to attend regular classes in the school in their village.”



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COVID-19 IMPACT AND RESPONSE

The RSPN and its partner RSPs are working with the local governments and other international donors to undertake numerous activities to raise awareness against COVID-19, in a bid to reduce the spread of the virus in the rural communities.

Considering this, RSPN arranged for Pakistan's first, organised community-led response in rural areas to the COVID-19 emergency. This unique public-private partnership between the Federal Government of Pakistan and LSOs was carried out in 1,500 union councils of 66 districts where seven RSPs signed MOUs with district administrations, as a public service, linking LSOs to government to battle COVID-19. The work is happening in all provinces, Azad Jammu & Kashmir as well as Gilgit-Baltistan, with the Health Department training community activists (women and men) in awareness about COVID-19, related preventive measures, contact tracing and reporting of suspicious cases (TTQ) to the Health Department. This included 11 districts of Balochistan, 223 UCs, with the support of NRSP & BRSP. 12 MoUs were signed

in Balochistan and 65 district-level coordination meetings held. BRSP held six Trainings on Protection Measures against COVID-19 and TTQ. 46 Staff (22 women and 24 men) members were trained.

To prevent the spread of COVID, the BRSP and NRSP carried out awareness sessions, made announcements in mosques and via mobile phone messages about measures to follow, and distributed IEC material for the benefit of the community.

Furthermore, many LSOs in all nine Programme districts took initiatives and formed linkages with the local government and other NGOs to fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus. They also vowed to help poor families who were struggling in the wake of the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic-induced lockdowns. These cases were highlighted in the LSO Initiative series launched by RSPN BRACE and led by the Social Mobilisation Specialist at RSPN.

Provision of Rations to Vulnerable Families during COVID-19 Lockdown by LSO Naag in Washuk

Many daily wagers and their families living in rural Balochistan lost their source of income during the national lockdown imposed to control the spread of COVID-19; the families faced a famine-like situation. The Frontier Corps (FC) provides relief packages to the local people during emergency situation. To find solutions for the families suffering in their UC, the LSO leaders reached out to the FC authorities. After providing them with Poverty Score Card records of the poorest families, the LSO leaders requested the FC authorities to provide food items to the deserving. The FC provided ration bags to 40 ultra-poor households and saved them from the famine-like situation.

LSO Dasht, Kech Fights Against the Spread of COVID-19

When the federal government announced EHSAAAS Emergency Cash Programme, a nation-wide social protection initiative, the poor members of the LSO faced difficulties to register themselves under the programme. The LSO leaders, in close coordination with the CRPs and VO leaders, helped register 135 poor families under the programme. Around 110 poor families received cash grants.

Furthermore, the LSO realised that the awareness raising campaigns conducted by the Government via TV channels and mobile messages were not reaching the majority of the community members. To remedy this, the LSO decided to conduct focused awareness-raising campaigns via its COs. The LSO trained the CRPs on COVID-19 preventive measures and asked them to deliver a session to CO members after their routine CAT sessions. So far, the CRPs have conducted 191 awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19. The response of the community was very positive and they are trying their best to follow the government's instructions. The LSO also distributed information materials containing awareness raising messages on COVID-19. So far, they have distributed 405 pamphlets/brochures/leaflets among the community members. The documents were provided to the LSO by NRSP. The LSO leaders also displayed four banners, conveying precautionary messages about the pandemic in the central places of their UC. NRSP provided technical and financial support in developing these banners.



PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

2020

OF THE LSOs IN

QUETTA SERENA HOTEL



COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

NATIONAL LSO CONVENTION

The National Convention of LSOs is an annual event organised by RSPN in collaboration with RSPs to highlight the achievements of Community Institutions. The LSO Convention serves as a platform for all stakeholders to interact with LSOs and have the community leaders reflect upon their experiences, challenges and lessons learnt. The achievements of LSOs in rural communities are shared with a broader set of stakeholders including policymakers, government authorities, donor agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs) from across the country.

In year four, the National Convention of LSOs took place on 8th April 2021. The event was held online in observation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) established by the Government of Pakistan to mitigate the spread COVID-19. The convention highlighted the role of CDD as a tool for the socio-economic empowerment of rural communities; demonstrated the response of CIs to COVID-19 in partnership with government and donors; and detailed the state of nutrition in Pakistan and the role of CIs in response to the issues of malnutrition. Mr Ovidie Mic, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Pakistan praised RSPN Chairman Mr Shoaib Sultan Khan's efforts to promote CDD in Pakistan. The event highlighted the EU's initiatives and work under BRACE to an audience of a broader group of stakeholders including policymakers, donors, development practitioners and researchers working on CDD programmes in Pakistan.

DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Digital and Social Media platforms showcase and communicate ongoing field activities of the BRACE Programme to a wider audience including influencers, project team, government, target groups, beneficiaries, general public and the media.

During year four of the Programme, the Facebook page of the BRACE Programme <https://www.facebook.com/BRACEProgramme> witnessed a tremendous increase in organic likes, and now has more than 6,100 followers, up from 4,000 in year three. In year four, a total of 447 posts were published and overall, 1,593 BRACE posts have been published on Facebook till date.

The BRACE Twitter page, https://twitter.com/BRACE_BRSP created by BRSP posted a total of 107 tweets in Year Four. Overall 158 BRACE tweets have been posted on Twitter.

In year four, RSPN enhanced the visibility of European Union's support through BRACE for community-driven development in Balochistan by creating LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube accounts.

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/74975946

Instagram: www.instagram.com/braceinbalochistan

YouTube: BRACE Programme in Balochistan.

PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA COVERAGE

In year four of the Programme, RSPN continued to highlight EU's and RSPs work by writing articles (13) in various national and local newspapers including The News, The Friday Times, Balochistan Times,

Daily Jang, Mashriq, Daily Dunya, Daily Azaadi, Daily Express, Daily Intikhab, Roznama 92 News and on the social media forums like HumSub and The Dayspring. BRACE was also featured in various national news channels including Bol News, Neo News, Aaj Tv, Abb Takk News, 92 News, GTV and on popular social media news forums like Balochistan Voices.

BRACE VIDEO DOCUMENTARIES

During the reporting period, BRACE visited three Programme districts (Kech, Jhal Magsi and Pishin) along with a filmmaking crew from Keychain Films and recorded interviews and collected videos for eight video documentaries. Five documentaries were produced highlighting best approaches, best practices, achievements, and real impacts in the Programme focal areas. Each of the five documentaries focuses on a different aspect of the Programme, specifically:

1. Overall BRACE Programme,
2. Best Practices,
3. Gender Mainstreaming,
4. Government and Community Linkages
5. Community Physical Infrastructure.

Three human stories videos were also produced on the following interventions:

1. Income Generating Grants (IGG),
2. Community Investment Fund (CIF)
3. Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET).

These documentaries will not only enhance the visibility of the donor and the work done under BRACE on social media, but also provide Means of Verification for the target audience to understand the community work and self-help initiatives. These eight video documentaries will be published in the first quarter of year five and shown during the

upcoming 2021 Policy Advocacy Workshop in Quetta, as well as being shared on social media.

BRACE NEWSLETTERS

During year four of the Programme, RSPN published three quarterly newsletters. The fourth quarterly newsletter has been published in the first quarter of year five. These newsletters have been a vital tool to communicate with our national and international audience, including government officials, policy makers, donor agencies and other stakeholders. RSPN shared BRACE newsletters in both soft and hard copy with the relevant and potential stakeholders. Hard and soft copies were also shared with the RSPs to be disseminated amongst GoB officials and other provincial stakeholders. In addition to the BRACE Programme's specific quarterly newsletters, RSPN has also been promoting the work done under this Programme and other EU-funded programmes via its generic newsletter, "Outreach". During the reporting year, RSPN published three editions of Outreach, i.e., 46th, 47th and 48th editions of the organisational newsletter.

LSO INITIATIVES

The LSO Initiatives is a series of strategic documents which highlight the achievements of BRACE Local Support Organisations (LSOs). Each issue of the LSO initiative series showcases the work done by the LSO in collaboration with its VOs and COs, to lead development in their region, by developing linkages with government and non-government authorities. To date in its LSO Initiative series, RSPN has documented the work of 16 LSOs spotlighting their successes in representing the people who have little to no voice in public policy decision-making. The Social Mobilisation Specialist at RSPN leads this activity; he is supported by the Head Office and district teams of both RSPs. The series is published

and disseminated on the website, social media and with a host of internal and external stakeholders. In year four, 14 issues of the BRACE LSO initiatives series were published.

CASE STUDIES

During the reporting period, BRACE Programme team comprising Research Coordinator, M&E Officer, Documentation and Reporting Officer and Communications Officer visited five Programme districts (Kech, Pishin, Loralai, Zhob, Khuzdar and Jhal Magsi) and collected written case studies and success stories of the identified beneficiaries of Income Generating Grants (IGG), Community Investment Fund (CIF) and Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET). The team collected over 50 case studies which were published on BRACE social media forums and websites. These stories not only enhanced the support of the donor and promoted work done under BRACE Programme, but also highlighted the self-help initiatives. In addition, BRACE-RSPN is also publishing a booklet offering a compiled set of case studies for the Programme audience and stakeholders.

MEDIA VISITS

The main objective of the media visits under the BRACE Programme is to showcase the BRACE activities in the media. For this reason the project has arranged for local and national journalists to visit and see for themselves the impact of the Programme's interventions.

During the fourth quarter of year four, the second media visit was organised with Mr Muhammad Adnan Aamir, a journalist from Balochistan, to Pishin, Loralai, and Zhob. On his visit, he met with the community institutions and beneficiaries of different interventions under BRACE Programme. At the end of the visit, five print and electronic articles were published in national and local newspapers including The News, The Friday Times, Balochistan Times and Daily Jang, and three news report packages were featured on national electronic media like Bol News, Neo News and on popular social media news blogs like Balochistan Voices.

RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

BRACE aims to generate evidence-based research for stakeholders working in the region, especially the Government of Balochistan, civil society, academics, private sector, UN agencies, and international development organisations.

DYNAMICS OF HOUSEHOLD POVERTY AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN BALOCHISTAN WITH FOCUS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER ISSUES

Under the BRACE Programme, RSPN is conducting action research with a focus on key areas based on the approach and principles employed in the Participatory Action Research (PAR). The outcomes of the research will play an important role in informing the development of the policy framework for Balochistan. The research methodology and framework is focused on promoting participation, empowerment, capacity enhancement and involvement of all key stakeholders (Provincial and Local Government, District administration, local communities, and their institutions, RSPs, EU TA and EU).

In year four, RSPN completed the first wave of PAR on the “Dynamics of household poverty and inclusive development in Balochistan with focus on women empowerment and gender issues”. RSPN also initiated the second wave of this longitudinal study, which was completed in the fourth quarter of year four. The second wave of PAR conducted midline surveys of 218 respondents in Khuzdar, Kech and Loralai districts, selected for three waves of the study.

With two waves completed the study found answers to the following nine questions:

- What events increased a household’s likelihood of entering and exiting poverty?
- What is the likelihood of entering and exiting poverty given these different events?
- What is the impact of women’s empowerment on household poverty dynamics?
- What are the determinants of inclusive development with respect to various dimensions (i.e., human resources, financial resources, natural resources, social and physical resources)?
- What can be done in view of the findings, including recommendations that are both practical and contextualised to Balochistan?
- What governance arrangements and structural changes best empower local communities and women to shape development in their area?
- What are the socio-economic drivers of inclusive development and how do these drivers help in the eradication of discrimination and alienation?
- What role does social mobilisation play in sustainably ensuring inclusive development?
- How could the findings and recommendations best serve the study purpose?

The study found that overall, the number of poor households has increased by 10% in Khuzdar district between wave 2 and wave 1. However, there is a corresponding 24% and 10% reduction in poor households in Kech and Loralai, respectively. This is shown in figure 13.

As shown in figure 14, the number of ultra-poor households have reduced across all the districts during wave 2. A significant reduction of 15% of ultra

poor households is observed in each of districts Khuzdar and Kech in wave 2. The decrease in number of ultra-poor households can be attributed to livestock distribution activities.

The numbers of transitory poor have increased in Khuzdar and Kech but have slightly reduced (1.3%) in Loralai during wave 2. The number of transitory vulnerable households have reduced in Khuzdar (6%)

during wave 2, whereas they have increased by the same proportion in Kech. Loralai witnessed a slight reduction in the transitory vulnerable households during wave 2. The sample number of non-poor households have remained almost the same in Kech district. However, the number of households this category has increased by 2.3% in Loralai and by 1.5% in Khuzdar, respectively.

Figure 13: Incidence of Poverty Wave-I vs Wave II (2020)

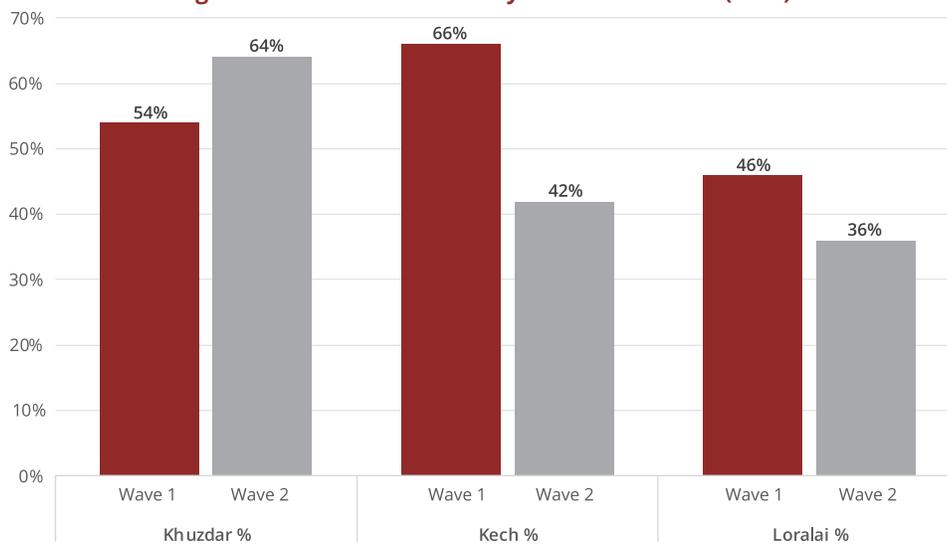
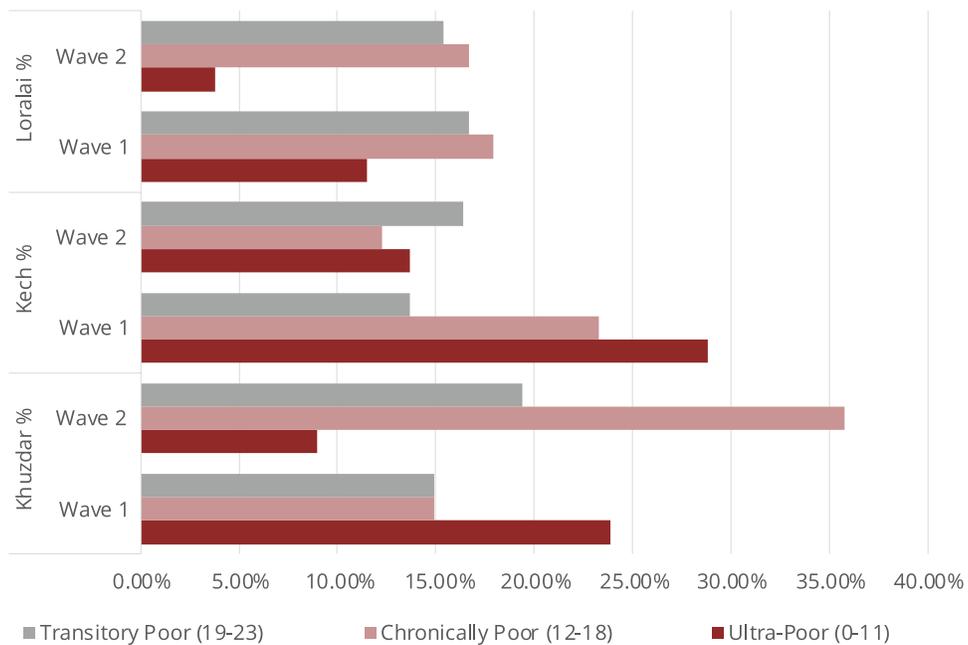


Figure 14: Incidence of poverty in each PSC category (Wave-I vs Wave-II)



ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

To disseminate the findings and recommendations of the longitudinal study “Poverty Dynamics, Inclusive Development and Women Empowerment in Balochistan” RSPN organised a provincial level Advocacy Workshop in coordination with the EU Technical Assistance Partner, BRSP and NRSP. This workshop aimed to promote evidence-based advocacy and learning with relevant stakeholders, policy makers and donors, with the specific aims to inform the design of the Balochistan community-led development framework and to provide evidence to scale-up successful CDD approaches.

135 participants (28 women and 107 men) from civil society, academia, development organisations, leaders of political parties, religious scholars, media, and officials from Federal and Provincial government participated in the Advocacy Workshop on the 22nd September 2020 in Serena Hotel, Quetta.

Apart from presenting the findings of PAR Wave 1, BRSP/NRSP LSO Leaders presented the findings of the Institutional Maturity Index Survey. The Documentation and Reporting Officer and the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for BRACE presented their findings on Emerging Outcomes of Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills Training in Khuzdar, a study that was conducted in March 2020. The attendees actively participated in the discussion after each session.

COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT THROUGH CIF, IGGs AND TVET FOR POOR HOUSEHOLDS

RSPN conducted the first thematic study on “Community Livelihood Enhancement through CIF, IGGs and TVET for Poor Households” under the Research Framework, in the last quarter of year four. The commencement of this thematic study was delayed because of the country-wide COVID-19

induced lockdown. Although the report for the study was not finalised in year four, the findings were shared by the consultants with RSPN.

The study aimed to assess outcomes and livelihood impacts related to CIF, IGG, TVET interventions. Assessment of social cohesion, trust in institutions, and the empowerment of women is also included in the study. The study conducted a rigorous quantitative analysis based on primary data collected through a sample survey of 1,063 women and men (IGG, CIF and TVET) beneficiaries and 311 non-beneficiaries in three districts i.e. Kech, Khuzdar and Loralai. The study aimed to find answers to the following questions.

- Key question 1 - analysis of the current implementation status of the three main interventions in terms of trends observed over time and across interventions.
- Key question 2 - household decision-making roles, mobility, self-employment, voting in elections, and trust in public institutions.
- Key question 3 - household PSC scores and incomes from various sources.
- Key questions 4, 5 and 6 - household decisions and impact in terms of income and assets associated with the 3 main interventions (one key question for each intervention).
- Key question 7 - conclusions and recommendations emerging from the study.

IGG beneficiaries reported an average increase in income (net of cost) of PKR 3,100 per month, which is the equivalent of 23% of their average monthly household income as estimated by the survey.

Qualitative evidence suggests that IGG-related incomes helped improve food consumption for all household members (including children), access to health care, and children’s education. CIF beneficiaries reported an average increase in income (net of cost)

of PKR 1,600 per month, which is the equivalent of 11% of their average monthly household income as estimated by the survey.

As with the sample of IGGs, the main uses of CIF beneficiary net income were for food, clothes, health care and children’s education. Beneficiaries in FGDs suggested that CIF-related income helped improve food consumption for all household members (including children), access to health care, and children’s education, but CRPs and LSO members did

not corroborate these findings.

TVET beneficiaries reported an average increase in income (net of cost) of PKR 3,300 per month, which is the equivalent of 16% of the average monthly household income of TVET beneficiaries as estimated by the survey. Qualitative evidence suggests that TVET-related income helped improve children’s education, food consumption for all household members (including children) and access to health care.

Figure 15: Graduation, IGGs, CIF, and TVET beneficiaries from higher to lower poverty categories

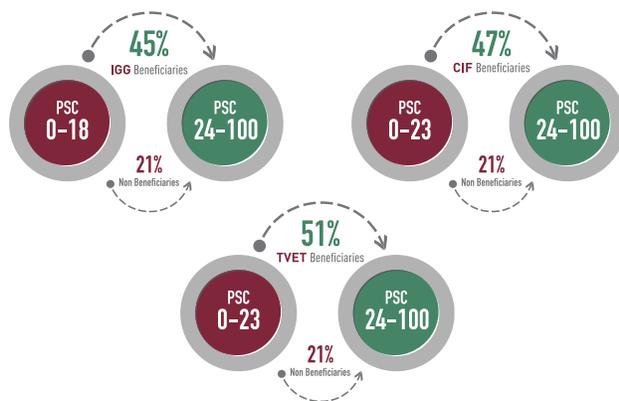
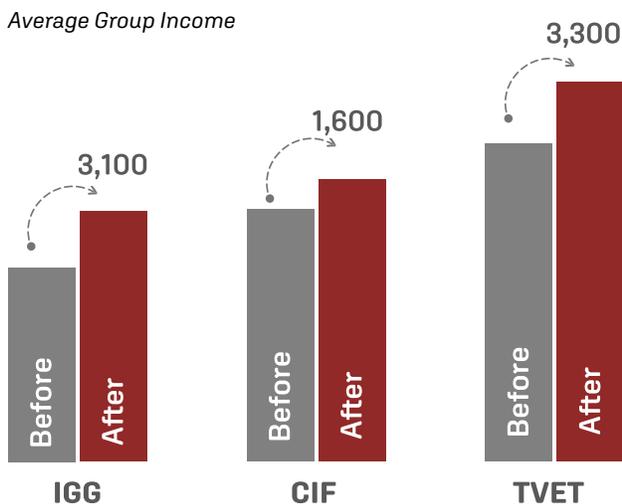


Figure 16: Programme interventions improved household incomes



RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To oversee, inform and provide advice on the research component, RSPN has formed a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) with members from GoB’s LGRDD, EU-TA, RSPs, academics and researchers in similar fields. RAC serves as a guiding and advisory committee for the overall research component of the BRACE Programme throughout its implementation. It ensures that evidence-based policy recommendations are generated and disseminated to inform the development of the local development policy framework for Balochistan. The first RAC meeting convened in June 2019 to finalise the design of the research framework, longitudinal study and the sectoral/thematic studies.

During year four of the Programme, a meeting of RAC, was held in September 2020, in which members reviewed progress on follow-up actions from the last RAC meeting, discussed overall research activities under BRACE and the tentative timelines of the research studies and PAR Study ‘Dynamics of Household Poverty and Inclusive Development in Balochistan with Focus on Women Empowerment’ first wave/phase report. Members of RAC also discussed ways forward for the second wave of PAR study and agreed the TORs for the first thematic Study on the Approach and Impact of Financial Access Interventions (this is a reference to the study undertaken by IPOR mentioned above).



BRACE



BRSP

برسرپان پروگرام برائے روستا اور کمیونٹی ترقی

District Development Committee's (JDDC) Meeting

District: Jhal Magsi

Rural Development and Community Empowerment (BRACE) Programme

Rural Support Programme

Programme is fun

European Union



ROLE OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PARTNER

The Technical Assistance (TA) Project of the BRACE Programme is responsible for policy advice and capacity building regarding local governance reform, both on provincial and (sub-) district levels

The TA Project is implemented by DAI Human Dynamics, who are mandated to facilitate the Government of Balochistan (GoB) to establish an innovative Community-Led Local Governance (CLLG) Policy and Fiscal Framework. The GoB CLLG Policy and the supporting Fiscal Framework will build on a Public Financial Management (PFM) Framework, that is to enable and regulate the devolved resources and budgets in support of the CLLG Policy. The CLLG Policy and Fiscal Framework are, to enable establishment and sustainable operations of mobilised and empowered Community Institutions (CI), and to facilitate citizens to get institutionally organised, and become equal partners to the GoB and participate in a Community-Led Local Development Dialogue.

The BRACE Technical Assistance (TA) is specifically tasked with achievement of BRACE Specific Objective 2 (SO2), “to foster an enabling environment for strengthening the capacities of local authorities to manage and involve communities in the statutory processes of the local public sector planning, financing and implementation process”. The TA facilitates the innovative GoB policy reforms processes, and presents descriptive process-indicators, to explain the TA performance and progress of the TA deliverables, the bottlenecks and challenges, and the way forward. The TA Project is structured along five TA Expected Result (ER) Areas.

TA Expected Result Areas

- 1 Dedicated GoB CLLG Policy Framework
- 2 Capacitated Local Government Authorities
- 3 Capacitated Rural Development Academy
- 4 Institutionalized Community Institutions
- 5 Cross-cutting Tasks & Project Management

TA OVERALL PROGRESS

As of July 2021, the overall progress of the TA component has fallen behind the initial Overall Work Plan. The major hindering factors were the replacement of its key experts and /or their frequent absence due to work- visa delays and the COVID-19 lockdowns throughout 2020.

However, the TA updated its Overall Work Plan (January 2021 – June 2022) and still aims at delivery



The 4th Strategic Policy Dialogue Committee (SPDC) Meeting held on 16/07/2021, chaired by the ACS (Development).

of all ToR stipulated outputs by June 2022. From Q4-2020, the TA re-established the momentum in the Policy Dialogue with about 50 mid-level/senior GoB stakeholders and officials, through the Notified Technical Working Groups (WG), the Local Government & Rural Development Sector Coordination Committee (SCC), chaired by the Secretary of the Local Government and Rural Development Department (LGRDD), and the BRACE Strategic Policy Dialogue Committee (SPDC), chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary (ACS/Development) of the Planning and Development Department (P&DD). These forums provide adequate guarantees for Government of Balochistan (GoB) input, buy-in and leadership in the Policy Reform Processes being pursued under BRACE SO2.

TOWARDS A COMMUNITY-LED LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND FISCAL FRAMEWORK

In Expected Result Area 1 the first outlines of the policy framework have been designed with our main GoB counterpart, the LGRDD. The first draft of the CLLG Policy was presented for review and further discussions in the Sector Coordination Committee (SCC) and the Working Group meetings.

The GoB feedback, inputs and comments are to be incorporated into the 2nd draft, in Q3/4-2021. Since January 2021 three rounds of meetings by each WG and the SCC have been conducted. The institutionalised role of Community Institutions (CIs) is specified in the proposed CDLG Policy.

The GoB Public Financial Management (PFM) Act was prepared with support from the EU-Funded PFM II Project, and has been adopted (2020) by the GoB. However, adjustments are required and will be proposed, to ensure proper legal regulations for funding arrangements in support of community-led local development and participation by registered

Community Institutions in the local governance processes, for more effective service delivery in partnership with local authorities.

The GoB Community-Led Local Governance Policy (CLLG) and the supporting Fiscal Framework will be applicable to the whole province and will cover all possible development partners that wish to support the Government of Balochistan with Community-led Development Programmes

THE STRATEGY AND POLICY DIALOGUE (SPDC) COMMITTEE

The 3rd Strategy and Policy Dialogue Committee (SPDC) meeting was convened in February 2020, and triggered the notifications of the LG&RD SCC and its 4th Working Groups. The COVID-19 lockdowns resulted in the 4th SPDC meeting only being convened in July 2021. The various policy reforms, like the JDDC ToT and the draft CLLG Policy outlines were then presented. The July 2021 SPDC also discussed the findings of the BRACE Programme Mid-term Review, and decisions were made on a forward workplan and the need for a No Cost Extension, applicable to all BRACE Implementing Partners.

THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS (WGS) AND LG/RD SECTOR COORDINATION COMMITTEE (SCC)

The TA Coordinated with the LGRDD three rounds of meetings all four Working Groups (WG) i.e., WG1) Legal and Institutional Framework, WG2) Public Finance & Public Financial Management; WG3) Integration Community Institutions (CIs); and EG4) Capacity Building of the Local Government Sector. The WGs discussed, from their own perspective, the role of a JDDC, the Local Councils Grants Committee (LCGC), proposed changes to Public Financial Management Act 2020 and the District Financial Regulations (FR), possible amendments to the P&DD/Development



Sector Coordination Committee meeting on 26 March 2021, chaired by the Secretary LG&RD Department

Planning Manual and the FD/Finance Manual, and the outlines of a proposed Local Government/Rural Development Sector Medium Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF). The TA coordinated the PFM discussion in Working Group 2, with the EU PFM Project and Finance Department. WG1 discussed and finalised the proposed amendments to the LG Act 2010. In WG4 Capacity-Assessment and the Capacity Building Plan for the BRDA were discussed, to be taken forward under TA ER3.

THE BALOCHISTAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2010 (LGA) REFORMS

In 2020 the TA prepared recommendations and a Working Paper on proposed amendments to the Balochistan Local Government Act (2021) and submitted these to Secretary LG&RDD in his capacity as the Secretariat of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Local Government Reforms. Proposals were also shared with selected stakeholders, including members of the Provincial Assembly (MPAs).

The proposed LGA reforms provide a stronger enabling environment for the implementation of the GoB CLLG Policy, that is more (gender) inclusive and proposes an institutionalised role of Community Institutions (CIs) to be mentioned in the new Local

Government Act (LGA). As at July 2021 the LGA reforms are still being deliberated by Cabinet.

JOINT DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

In close coordination with the LGRDD and in the various Working Group meetings, the TA discussed and prepared the final draft of the updated and streamlined JDDC Terms of Reference (ToR), ready for submission and re-notification by the Competent Authority, the Planning and Development Department, expected to be done in Q3-2021.



(05/06/2021) Joint District Development Committee Meeting in Kech district

In the past year, and under the old JDDC ToRs, the Districts continued to convene JDDC meetings, and in total about 46 meetings were held in the nine BRACE Programme districts.

CAPACITATING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS/ AUTHORITIES TO INVOLVE COMMUNITIES IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

In Expected Result Area 2, the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Joint District Development Committee have been updated and streamlined and are now ready for (re-)Notification by the Competent Authority.

Capacity development of the (District) local governments/ authorities can start, once the streamlined JDDC ToR are notified and are scheduled from Q3-2021. However, already a range of training interventions, based on the streamlined JDDC ToR, are provided to the District Government authorities, to capacitate them to apply the JDDC ToR functions.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the District Development Strategy and Plan (DDS&P) assignment have been approved and in three BRACE Districts (Loralai, Pishin and Kech) the new JDDC ToR will be piloted and practiced in Q3-2021, and after a further update of the JDDC ToR, based on the DDSP Assignment experiences, the JDDC will be mainstreamed in all nine BRACE Districts, and then in all Districts of Balochistan.

In cooperation with the BRDA, the TA conducted in July 2021, the TA District Coordination (DC) 2-days Topic 1 Course on Bottom-up approaches. The DC Course targets a group of 57 District Stakeholders from the Deputy Commissioners Office, the District LG Department the RSP and our TA (Assistant) District Coordinators. This group is to act as change agents in their respective districts.

ENABLING THE BALOCHISTAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY (BRDA) TO DELIVER A COMPREHENSIVE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME ON COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

In Expected Result Area 3 the capacity assessment

of the BRDA has been concluded and based on this, the outlines of the Capacity Building Plan for the Balochistan Rural Development Academy (BRDA) have been prepared, while its implementation has already started in Q3-2021.

In 2020/21 the TA in close coordination with the BRDA, first designed and conducted the BRDA Capacity Needs Assessment in a participatory manner with the BRDA staff and selected stakeholders. This was followed by a series of validations sessions with BRDA staff and further presentations and discussions in WG-4 on Capacity Building for the Local Government Sector. The assessment report forms the basis for developing the BRDA Capacity Building Plan.

In 2021 the TA Re-established contacts with the with Hague Academy for Local Governance (HAfLG), in the Netherlands, to explore short-term trainings for GoB officials and possible modalities for twinning.

DISTRICT COORDINATION (DC) TRAINING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING COURSE

The TA designed and conducted with the BRDA, the District Coordination Courses. In November 2019, the TA conducted DC three-day Induction Course, and in July 2021, a two-day TA DC was conducted on Bottom-up approaches. Three more TA DC Courses are scheduled for 2021.

By conducting the DC Courses with and in the BRDA, on-the-job Capacity building takes place. Through the DC Course and other planned specific activities, the TA works closely with the BRDA pool of instructors and provides on-the-job coaching and mentoring in areas such as training design, materials and module development, and training delivery and facilitation. The TA also supported the BRDA to improve its training hall facilities.



District Coordination - Topic 1: Bottom-up approach) Course conducted at the BRDA compound in Quetta on 8 and 9 July 2021.

ENABLING IMPLEMENT PARTNERS (IP) AND COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF BALOCHISTAN IN IMPROVING PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

Progress in Expected Result Area 4, is based on the technical and institutional capacity building of Community Institutions, as pursued by the BRACE RSP Implementing Partners (IP), while the TA will follow through to institutionalise the roles of the RSPs and CIs, (to be) captured in the JDDC ToR and the GoB CDLG Policy.

To further institutionalise the (future) roles of RSPs and CIs the TA implemented the BRACE Programme Theory of Change (ToC) assignment in Q3/Q4-2020, which assessed the roles and sustainability of BRACE IPs and GoB Stakeholders in the BRACE Programme design and Intervention Logic.

The TA supported the RSPs to work with the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to streamline registration of CI/Local Support organisations (LSO) under the (New) Balochistan Charities Registration and Regulation Authority.

The TA also made proposals on the role and institutional position of the Community Institutions (CIs) in proposed amendments for Local Government Act (LGA) Reforms, and included the role of CIs in the (draft) CLLG Policy and the streamlined JDDC ToR.

BRACE TA CROSS-CUTTING DELIVERABLES AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The TA also selected cross-cutting and managerial tasks, that support the project objectives and other expected result areas. In general, these cross-cutting and managerial tasks are now fairly on course, after the delays experienced in 2020, and the BRACE Gender Strategy and BRACE C&V Strategy and related Actions plans have been formulated, adopted and are annually updated.

The TA updated its Overall Work Plan (January 2021 – June 2022) that was submitted to EUD. The updated Workplan still aims at delivery of all ToR stipulated Outputs by June 2022. The BRACE TA Logframe (LF) was also updated (March 2021) and supports the delivery of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The TA facilitated the logistics of the External Monitoring Mission (EMM) and the Mid Term Review (MTR) assignments by securing appointments with the senior key GoB provincial and district BRACE Programme stakeholders.

Duron 2020/21 the TA facilitated the convening of 3 Operational Steering Committee (OSC) meetings of the Implementing Partners (IPs) chaired by the EUD.

BRACE PROGRAMME WEBSITE AND BRACE COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY (C&V) MESSAGES

The BRACE Programme WEBSITE (<https://brace.org.pk/>) continues to be updated and clearly demonstrates the GoB and the IPs/EU joint ownership of the BRACE Programme.



TA updated the (2021) BRACE Programme Communication and Visibility (C&V) Strategy and activated the BRACE C&V Working Group, with IP representatives, and the BRACE C&V Committee, with a GoB Representative as chair. The C&V WG and the C&V Committee are to activate a range of BRACE Messages, using the BRACE Strategy Guidelines and Communications Quality Standards.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING (GMS) STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS

The TA Gender Consultants led a participatory exercise in Q4-2020 and Q1/Q2-2021 with the RSP Gender Specialists and with selected



Handing-over of the BRACE Gender mainstreaming (GMS) Strategy to Secretary Women Development Department on 22/06/2021

GoB representatives, in particular the Women Development. This resulted in the BRACE Gender Mainstreaming (GMS) Strategy, which was formally handed over to the GoB Secretary Women Development Department.

THE BRACE PROGRAMME THEORY OF CHANGE (TOC) AND THE BRACE PROGRAMME EXIT STRATEGY

The TA coordinated the BRACE Programme Theory of Change (ToC) assignment, which was concluded in December 2020. In July 2021 the follow-up ToC Closure Workshop was held for IPs, selected GoB stakeholders and the EUD Representative. The ToC assignment and workshop provided clear answers and a shared understanding of the BRACE Programme ToC/ Intervention Logic (IL), with regard to the Policy Reform Dialogue, the Capacity-building of all stakeholders, the RSPs, the CIs, the TA and the BRACE GoB Counterparts at Provincial and District level.



BRACE Programme Theory of Change Workshop held 14-15 July 2021.



DEVELOPMENT PLAN (VDP)

دیس کی ترقیاتی منصوبہ

BRACE Program supported by European Union

CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

1. CAPACITY BUILDING OF ENGINEERS

In year four, it was established that the BRSP and NRSP engineers needed capacity building and technical backstopping to implement the CPI schemes. RSPN provided this support by hiring an expert consultant to thoroughly review the CPI component and provide context-based trainings, on- site and virtually.

Upon the advice of the EU Delegation Pakistan, the three BRACE partners, RSPN, BRSP and NRSP, conducted a detailed review of the BRACE CPI component in all nine districts. For this activity, RSPN took the lead and hired an expert consultant who was tasked to provide technical support to RSPN, BRSP and NRSP in reviewing the existing arrangements for implementation of Community Physical Infrastructure (CPI) component; assisting in improving the quality of the schemes in all nine districts; and updating the CPI scheme checklists files with the implementing partners' engineering team.

A detailed review of 201 schemes was executed against the target of 209. (Out of a total of 90 schemes in NRSP district, 89 schemes were successfully visited and reviewed; out of a total of 119 schemes in BRSP districts, 112 schemes were successfully visited and reviewed). These schemes include solar and electric drinking water supply schemes; solar tube-wells; rehabilitated karez; lined water courses; construction rehabilitated school buildings; flood protection bunds/walls, and construction toilets.

The schemes in each district were visited with the relevant field engineers. The consultant reviewed the CPI scheme files as per the checklist for each scheme and identified the missing documents including survey reports, drawings, engineering estimates and water quality reports. During site inspection, the

consultant identified multiple issues in different CPI schemes, including issues with the quality of water tanks, distribution points, plumbing works, quality of civil works for flood protection walls/bunds, gabion structures, school buildings, pit latrines, specifications of equipment, depth of boreholes, water table, water course, improvement of karez and discharge of pumps. These quality issues were pointed out to the field engineers on site, so they could take appropriate and necessary action. The consultant also conducted onsite training for field engineers and operators in the use of solar systems, height determination of flood protection walls, and sources of data from the Irrigation Department.

On completion of the exercise, the consultant delivered a virtual session on his findings and recommendations to the BRSP and NRSP engineers from the RSPN office in Islamabad. The consultant divided the component into stages (from inception till management of scheme) and made specific recommendations for each stage to ensure the scheme is technically sound and a success.

2. FORMING DISCUSSION CIRCLES COMPRISING IGG BENEFICIARIES AT LSO LEVEL

Upon the advice of the EU Delegation Pakistan, BRSP and NRSP conducted a detailed review of the 30% of all Income Generating Grants disbursed under BRACE in all nine districts. For this activity, RSPN took the lead and developed an Action Plan, detailing the methodology and sample for the activity. RSPN PMU conducted spot checks on 15% of the randomly selected IGG beneficiary households to ensure the data is accurate.

The RSPN gained some valuable insights from this detailed monitoring and verification of the IGGs. IGG beneficiaries in 23% of the households (all in BRSP districts) the PMU team interviewed, were in need of follow-up support from the LSO and RSP SMT. For this, the PMU recommended that the “LSO hold a specific session/meeting on ways to maintain and increase livelihood sustainably, e.g. frequency and types of vaccine to get for the livestock, and how to maintain livestock in times of drought, etc.”. These sessions/ meetings with people from the same UC are expected to help beneficiaries maintain their grant in a sustainable and profitable manner.

BRSP appreciated the PMU’s recommendation and agreed to conduct these sessions on a quarterly basis, starting from August, 2021. This activity would be conducted by members of the LSO with support from the Livelihood Officer. The LSO Executive body, SMT and District M&E Officer are expected to monitor this activity.

3. DISRUPTION CAUSED BY COVID-19

During years three and four of BRACE Programme, the country-wide lockdown imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic created multiple challenges for BRACE staff and CIs in Balochistan. This not only meant a serious disruption of life and livelihoods but also a slow-down of economic growth to 1.9% per year in 2018-19 and minus 1.5% in 2019-20. Food inflation in rural areas, combined with unemployment, have exacerbated poverty. Balochistan, which already had the highest incidence of poverty in the country, was affected particularly seriously. The CIs were unable to meet on a monthly basis for the initial few months, ALNS and TVET classes were also put on hold. The staff of IPs faced difficulties in visiting the field because of the lockdown. However, as the COVID-19 cases decreased and the people in the rural communities started to become aware of the preventative measures against the virus because of the CAT sessions on COVID-19 (delivered regularly as per the need), they were able to meet outdoors, while practicing social distancing. The BRACE staff also came up with multiple ways to stay connected with the field in a safe manner.

ANNEX

(1st July 2017 – 30th June 2021)

Community Organisations													
S. No	Districts	Y - 4 Target	Year 4 Achievements		Mix COs	Total	Per %	Overall Target	Achievements				Progress
			Male	Female					Male	Female	Mix	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	394	61	79	0	140	36%	1093	668	532	0	1200	110%
2	Khuzdar	1510	659	626	0	1285	85%	3368	2420	1896	2	4318	128%
3	Washuk	471	107	145	1	253	54%	1238	819	711	3	1533	124%
4	Killa Abdullah	1033	1103	576	4	1683	163%	2906	2904	2170	7	5081	175%
5	Pishin	1901	595	198	2	795	42%	4236	2772	1380	2	4154	98%
6	Loralai	195	136	100	0	236	121%	1185	943	760	0	1703	144%
7	Dukki	540	190	194	0	384	71%	867	554	522	0	1076	124%
8	Zhob	604	165	159	0	324	54%	1638	1154	773	2	1929	118%
9	Kech	945	98	668	26	792	84%	2,598	469	1,766	210	2,445	94%
Total		7,593	3,114	2,745	33	5,892	78%	19,129	12,703	10,510	226	23,439	123%

Village Organisations													
S. No	Districts	Y - 4 Target	Year 4 Achievements		Mix VOs	Total	Per %	Overall Target	Achievements				Progress
			Male	Female					Male	Female	Mix VOs	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	0	12	21	0	33	#DIV/0!	180	147	76	4	227	126%
2	Khuzdar	0	135	172	0	307	#DIV/0!	560	572	474	0	1046	187%
3	Washuk	0	20	41	1	62	#DIV/0!	200	199	116	8	323	162%
4	Killa Abdullah	0	234	107	1	342	#DIV/0!	468	595	314	1	910	194%
5	Pishin	0	148	52	0	200	#DIV/0!	689	617	176	0	793	115%
6	Loralai	0	68	105	0	173	#DIV/0!	166	291	205	0	496	299%
7	Dukki	0	73	57	0	130	#DIV/0!	158	208	161	0	369	234%
8	Zhob	0	51	16	0	67	#DIV/0!	264	327	100	0	427	162%
9	Kech	155	0	74	63	137	88%	400	0	115	267	382	96%
Total		155	741	645	65	1451	936%	3,085	2,956	1,737	280	4,973	161%

Local Support Organisation													
S. No	Districts	Y - 4 Target	Year 4 Achievements		Mix VOs	Total	Per %	Overall Target	Achievements				Progress
			Male	Female					Male	Female	Mix VOs	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	4	4	0	0	4	100%	12	4	0	8	12	100%
2	Khuzdar	9	7	0	-1	6	67%	40	14	0	23	37	93%
3	Washuk	2	1	0	0	1	50%	10	1	0	8	9	90%
4	Killa Abdullah	15	12	0	-1	11	73%	36	22	0	10	32	89%
5	Pishin	18	17	0	0	17	94%	53	28	0	24	52	98%
6	Loralai	6	6	0	-1	5	83%	20	8	0	11	19	95%
7	Dukki	10	6	0	0	6	60%	16	8	0	4	12	75%
8	Zhob	2	2	0	0	2	100%	24	7	0	17	24	100%
9	Kech	7	0	0	7	7	100%	32	0	3	29	32	100%
Total		73	55	0	4	59	81%	243	92	3	134	229	94%

Community Management Skills Training											
S. No	District	Target Year - 4	Year 4 Achievements				Overall Achievement				
			Men	Women	Total	%	Target	Men	Women	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	488	57	62	119	24%	2186	1043	774	1817	83%
2	Khuzdar	1,793	380	660	1,040	58%	6738	2983	3002	5985	89%
3	Washuk	324	177	92	269	83%	2477	1358	1064	2422	98%
4	Killa Abdullah	3,507	833	359	1,192	34%	5811	2161	1335	3496	60%
5	Pishin	3618	240	212	452	12%	8471	3506	1799	5305	63%
6	Loralai	-69	385	198	583	-845%	2370	1636	1387	3023	128%
7	Dukki	661	138	120	258	39%	1734	727	604	1331	77%
8	Zhob	855	100	120	220	26%	3275	1684	956	2640	81%
9	Kech	2,371	228	1,246	1,474	62%	5,196	1036	3,263	4,299	83%
Total		13,547	2,538	3,069	5,607	41%	38,258	16,134	14,184	30,318	79%

Leadership Management Skills Training for VO's											
S. No	District	Target Year - 4	Year 4 Achievements				Overall Achievement				
			Men	Women	Total	%	Target	Men	Women	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	130	0	0	0	0%	360	194	36	230	64%
2	Khuzdar	242	60	20	80	33%	1120	540	418	958	86%
3	Washuk	38	16	32	48	128%	400	235	176	411	103%
4	Killa Abdullah	636	124	40	164	26%	936	304	160	464	50%
5	Pishin	757	80	0	80	11%	1378	601	100	701	51%
6	Loralai	-111	20	40	60	-54%	332	280	222	502	151%
7	Dukki	74	0	40	40	54%	316	84	198	282	89%
8	Zhob	91	20	0	20	22%	528	388	70	458	87%
9	Kech	354	51	189	240	68%	800	235	451	686	86%
Total		2,210	371	361	732	33%	6,170	2,861	1,831	4,692	76%

Leadership Management Skills Training for LSO's											
S. No	District	Target Year - 4	Year 4 Achievements				Overall Achievement				
			Men	Women	Total	%	Target	Men	Women	Total	%
1	Jhal Magsi	15	14	0	14	92%	24	23	0	23	96%
2	Khuzdar	73	55	0	55	75%	80	63	0	63	79%
3	Washuk	9	4	0	4	43%	20	15	0	15	75%
4	Killa Abdullah	57	23	0	23	40%	72	37	0	37	51%
5	Pishin	82	53	0	53	65%	106	77	0	77	73%
6	Loralai	19	8	0	8	42%	40	30	0	30	75%
7	Dukki	27	12	0	12	44%	32	17	0	17	53%
8	Zhob	18	6	0	6	33%	48	36	0	36	75%
9	Kech	15	8	7	15	100%	64	29	35	64	100%
Total		316	183	7	190	60%	486	327	35	362	74%

Community Awareness Toolkit Roll-out									
S No	District	Year-4 Achievements				Overall Achievements			
		Sessions	Men	Women	Total participants	Sessions	Men	Women	Total participants
1	Jhal Magsi	347	1,532	1,381	2,913	1,470	7,473	4,870	12,343
2	Khuzdar	1212	5529	5028	10,557	4848	26492	15737	42,229
3	Washuk	899	3218	2965	6,183	3598	12919	11829	24,748
4	Killa Abdullah	1979	7,842	6,628	14,470	7,916	33,901	23,980	57,881
5	Pishin	1,143	5,510	5,315	10,825	4,572	22,952	20,350	43,302
6	Loralai	458	2347	2115	4,462	1832	10634	7217	17,851
7	Dukki	244	1,436	1,294	2,730	976	7,118	3,805	10,923
8	Zhob	684	3,821	3,058	6,879	2,737	16,498	11,030	27,528
9	Kech	3,234	1,834	76,896	78,730	4,871	3,846	96,048	99,894
	Total	10,200	33,069	104,680	137,749	32,820	141,833	194,866	336,699

Community Resource Persons on Board											
S No	District Name	Target	Achievement			CRPs Turnover			CRPs On board		
			Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
1	Jhal Magsi	36	16	22	38	4	3	7	12	19	31
2	Khuzdar	120	66	82	148	25	19	44	41	63	104
3	Washuk	30	23	17	40	15	10	25	8	7	15
4	Killa Abdullah	108	70	57	127	28	18	46	42	39	81
5	Pishin	159	82	100	182	40	64	104	42	36	78
6	Loralai	60	36	50	86	4	14	18	32	36	68
7	Dukki	48	20	38	58	8	33	41	12	5	17
8	Zhob	72	53	35	88	25	17	42	28	18	46
9	Kech	64	10	54	64	0	0	0	53	137	190
	Total	697	376	455	831	149	178	327	270	360	630

Joint District Development Committees					
District	JDDC at The/Dis level Target	Target (Year 4)	Achievement	Achievements (%)	Overall Achievement
Kech	1 JDDC	1 JDDC	1 JDDC	100%	Complete
	4 JDCs	4 JDCs	4 JDCs	100%	
BRSP	8JDDCs	26	15JDCs	40	8 JDDCs/JDCs committees and 40 meetings
	27JDCs				

Micro Investment Plans							
S#	District	Year 4 Achievements			Overall Achievement		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	2,039	833	41%	16,438	9,448	57%
2	Khuzdar	18,803	14,431	77%	61,607	44,858	73%
3	Washuk	3,914	1,743	45%	23,917	22,100	92%
4	Killa Abdullah	23,051	12,692	55%	71,491	40,873	57%
5	Pishin	11,728	13,386	114%	61,342	44,885	73%
6	Loralai	9,549	3,400		23,629	20,265	86%
7	Dukki		5,376		16,889	15,126	90%
8	Zhob	4,727	7,614	161%	27,650	24,246	88%
9	Kech	24,200	9,736	40%	46,757	32,293	69%
Total		98,011	69,211	71%	349,720	254,094	73%

Village Development Plans							
S#	District	Year 4 Achievements			Overall Achievement		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	106	57	54%	180	131	73%
2	Khuzdar	261	234	90%	560	533	95%
3	Washuk	32	10	31%	200	178	89%
4	Killa Abdullah	230	217	94%	468	455	97%
5	Pishin	439	314	72%	689	564	82%
6	Loralai	24	103	429%	166	245	148%
7	Dukki	33	57	173%	158	182	115%
8	Zhob	61	19	31%	264	222	84%
9	Kech	73	45	62%	400	265	83%
Total		1,259	1,056	84%	3,085	2,775	90%

Union Council Development Plans							
S#	District	Year 4 Achievements			Overall Achievement		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	4	4	100%	12	12	100%
2	Khuzdar	9	6	67%	40	37	93%
3	Washuk	2	1	50%	10	9	90%
4	Killa Abdullah	15	6	40%	36	27	75%
5	Pishin	20	9	45%	53	42	79%
6	Loralai	6	3	50%	20	17	85%
7	Dukki	10	5	50%	16	11	69%
8	Zhob	2	-5	-250%	24	17	71%
9	Kech	7	7	100%	32	32	100%
Total		75	36	48%	243	204	84%

Community Physical Infrastructures Initiated							
District	Over All Progress		Year 4		Overall Progress		
	Target	Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	1	0	0%	6	5	83%
2	Khuzdar	5	0	0%	46	30	65%
3	Washuk	0	1	#DIV/0!	18	19	106%
4	Killa Abdullah	21	0	0%	34	5	15%
5	Pishin	6	0	0%	58	38	66%
6	Loralai	5	0	0%	16	7	44%
7	Dukki	7	0	0%	9	0	0%
8	Zhob	2	3	150%	24	19	79%
9	Kech	91	29	32%	152	90	59%
Total		138	33	24%	363	213	59%

Community Physical Infrastructures Completed					
District	Completion CPIs Target		Target	Achievement	Achievements (%)
	(5 Years)				
Kech	152		136	41	30%
BRSP	211		139	58	27%
Total	363		275	99	27%

Technical and Vocational Education and Training

S#	District	Year 4 Achievements			Overall Achievement		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	96		0%	120	125	104%
2	Khuzdar	321		0%	400	431	108%
3	Washuk	81		0%	100	137	137%
4	Killa Abdullah	289		0%	360	35	10%
5	Pishin	425		0%	530	226	43%
6	Loralai	161		0%	200	244	122%
7	Dukki	132		0%	160	100	63%
8	Zhob	192		0%	240	188	78%
9	Kech				988	455	46%
	Total	1,697		0%	3,098	1,941	63%

Adult Literacy and Numeracy Skills

S#	District	Year 4 Achievements			Overall Achievement		
		Target	Achievement	%	Target	Achievement	%
1	Jhal Magsi	366		0%	480	545	114%
2	Khuzdar	1221		0%	1600	1624	102%
3	Washuk	305		0%	400	401	100%
4	Killa Abdullah	1099		0%	1440	1071	74%
5	Pishin	1617		0%	2120	1626	77%
6	Loralai	610		0%	800	835	104%
7	Dukki	489		0%	640	623	97%
8	Zhob	732		0%	960	859	89%
9	Kech				2280	2280	100%
	Total	6,439		0%	10,720	9,864	92%

Community Investment Fund										
S No	District	Year 4 Achievements				Overall Achievement				
		Target	Men	Women	Total participants	Target	Men	Women	Total participants	Achievement
1	Jhal Magsi	525				675	25	46	71	11%
2	Khuzdar	2250				2,850	33	677	710	25%
3	Washuk	600				750	0	85	85	11%
4	Killa Abdullah	1,200				2,550			0	0%
5	Pishin	2,250				3,450	40	72	112	3%
6	Loralai	1200				1,500	66	426	492	33%
7	Dukki	750				1,200	17	135	152	13%
8	Zhob	1,275				1,575	72	203	275	17%
9	Kech					9,000	0	1,755	1,755	20%
	Total	10,050	0	0	0	23,550	253	3,399	3,652	16%

Income Generating Grant										
S No	District	Year 4 Achievements				Overall Achievement				
		Target	Men	Women	Total participants	Target	Men	Women	Total participants	Achievement
1	Jhal Magsi	456				513	11	351	362	71%
2	Khuzdar	1482				2,280	60	1123	1,183	52%
3	Washuk	399				570	1	412	413	72%
4	Killa Abdullah	1,197				1,881	51	460	511	27%
5	Pishin	1,710				2,622	177	1,160	1,337	51%
6	Loralai	741				1,140	40	632	672	59%
7	Dukki	627				912	1	293	294	32%
8	Zhob	798				1,197	142	464	606	51%
9	Kech					1,900	0	1,187	1,187	62%
	Total	7,410	0	0	0	13,015	483	6,082	6,565	50%



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