



COMMUNITY LED SOLUTIONS

To support local resilience & community wellbeing



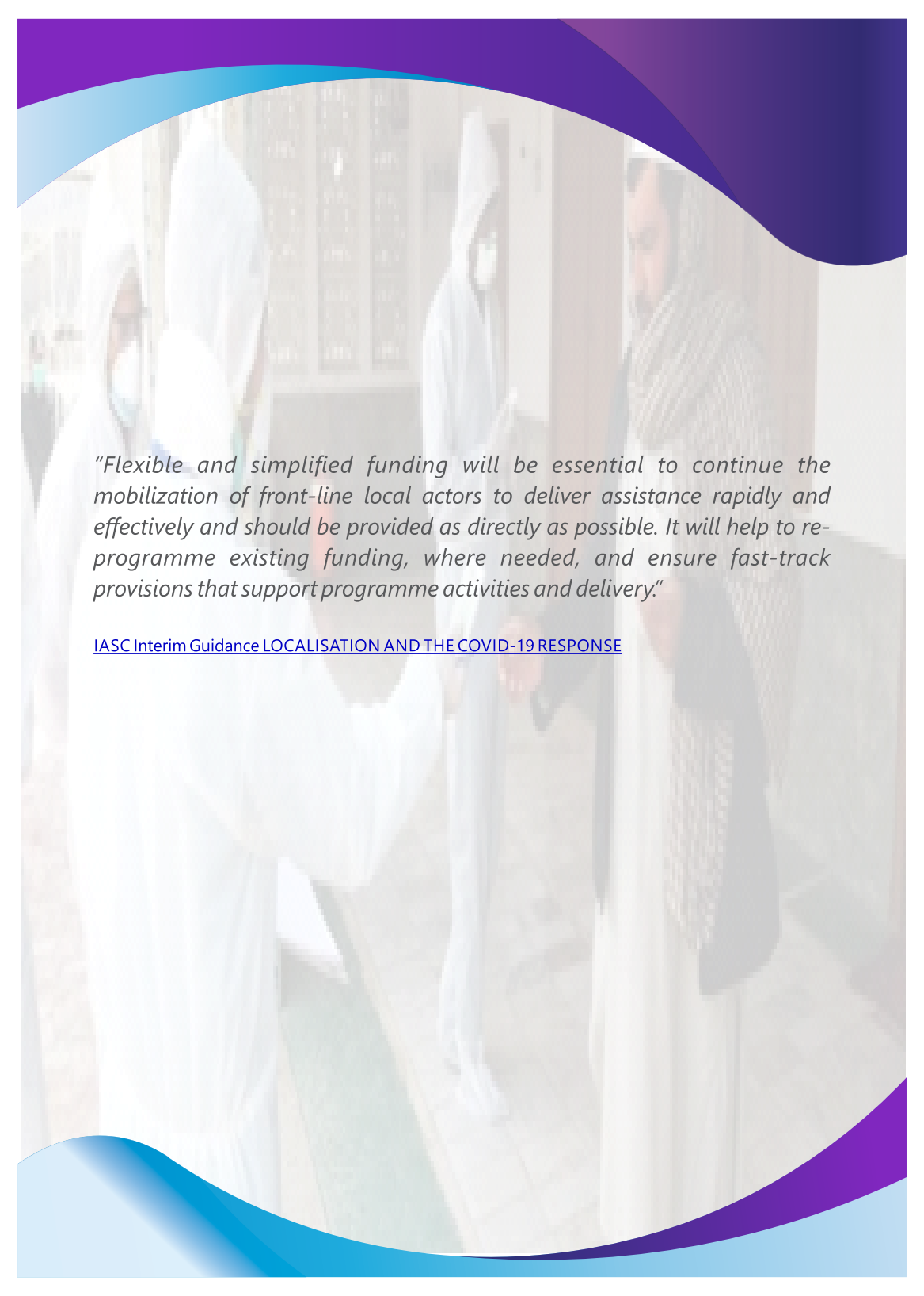
A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION



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"Flexible and simplified funding will be essential to continue the mobilization of front-line local actors to deliver assistance rapidly and effectively and should be provided as directly as possible. It will help to re-programme existing funding, where needed, and ensure fast-track provisions that support programme activities and delivery."

[IASC Interim Guidance LOCALISATION AND THE COVID-19 RESPONSE](#)

Flexible and Simplified Funding


When Pakistan declared a health state of emergency and lockdown due to COVID-19 in March, local health authorities imposed the closedown of all outpatient departments across the district. As a result people lost the everyday OPD support.

EHSAR was quick to adapt and re-programme its efforts, thanks to flexible arrangements that have been put in place by the Pakistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund (PHPF) and other Country-based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) that are responding to COVID-19. The free medical consultations were commenced in tehsil headquarter hospital Mola Khan Serai, Civil Dispensary Chagmalai and Civil Hospital at Sararogha.

Essential health services were provided in mentioned health facilities to control COVID-19 pandemic and other general disease in South Waziristan. Total 48639 patients were provided outpatient consultations, maternal and newborn child health services, dignity kits provision to poor women, referral services, psychosocial counseling, health hygiene promotion and provision of free medicines.


COVID-19 health emergency stretched the resources of government as well as private sector especially the health department. In order to support their efforts, PPE including Masks, Hand Sanitizers, Washing Soaps, Dettol solution and examination gloves were handed over to the district administrations of Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan and South Waziristan. In addition, awareness raising banners were displayed at multiple locations around the mentioned districts. The below graphs show the response activities that have been conducted so far in the district.

Two Quarantine/Isolation center were established at two locations i.e.



Tehsil headquarter hospital Mola Khan Sarai and at Army Public School, Sararogha by district health department and Pakistan Army. EHSAR medical and paramedic staff is providing technical support to these centers by providing 24/7 Medical Emergency Response Teams as first responders to any COVID-19 case or any other emergency in the health facility or in catchment area of Mola Khan Sarai and Sararogha. The teams also facilitate health department and army in screening of COVID-19 suspected cases. The critical patients are referred to the district headquarter hospitals while suspected patients are quarantined in the isolation centers. The below graph shows the number of patients that have been dealt with in both the facilities.

EHSAR is a non-profit organization working in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa district with main focus on health and WASH sector. EHSAR is an active member of National Humanitarian Network (NHN). NHN is a network of 170 local organizations. The commitment and dedication of local organizations such as EHSAR are a ray of hope for the underprivileged and deserving sections of society.






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A photograph showing a group of women in a hospital ward. They are wearing headscarves and face masks. They are sitting on a metal cot. The ward has other beds and medical equipment visible in the background.

“The Covid-19 pandemic is a fast-changing situation, and access to communities can quickly become limited due to restrictive measures. The planning should be started as early as possible as there may be limited time to devise alternative engagement plans. This includes how to communicate with different groups; the contact details for relevant stakeholders; and discussing the key perceptions, risks and challenges with communities, and determining their solutions.”


[Community Engagement Guide During COVID-19 by OXFAM](#)

Rise Up to the Challenge

The COVID-19 crisis forced many organizations to adjust and adapt quickly to an unprecedented situation. The COVID-19 epidemic and the lockdown forced all activities to be seized. This forced organizations to think of new and innovative solutions to continue their initiatives.

The farmers' awareness and training initiatives were especially at risk since they were aligned with the crop seasons and delaying these initiatives would result in waste of valuable crops and farmers livelihoods. One of the biggest questions was how organizations would be able to adjust face to face training experience to a virtual setting where farmers would be able to not only receive the training but could also ask questions from the facilitators.

With dedication and steadfastness Rural Education Economic Development Society (REEDS) team was able to swiftly adjust its initiative "Better Cotton Promotion" to minimize the impact of COVID-19. Cotton is a major crop of Pakistan after wheat. Cotton crop earns the country largest export revenues and in addition to the lint, the seed of cotton for oil and meal accounts for 80 percent of the national production of oilseed. Cotton and cotton related products contribute 10 percent to gross domestic product (GDP) and 55 percent to the foreign exchange earnings of the country. The REEDS team realizes the importance of cotton production in the country and were well aware of the timely completion of their cotton indicatives. Therefore, the planned trainings were switched to online sessions using virtual meeting tool "GoToMeeting" with the support of Fauji Fertilizer Company (FFC). FFC is a public limited company with a mission to taking a lead role in the agricultural & industrial development by delivering premium products and services while maintaining a high level of social and environmental responsibility for all the stakeholders. The company invests in farmers' awareness and capacity building programs through its corporate social responsibility.

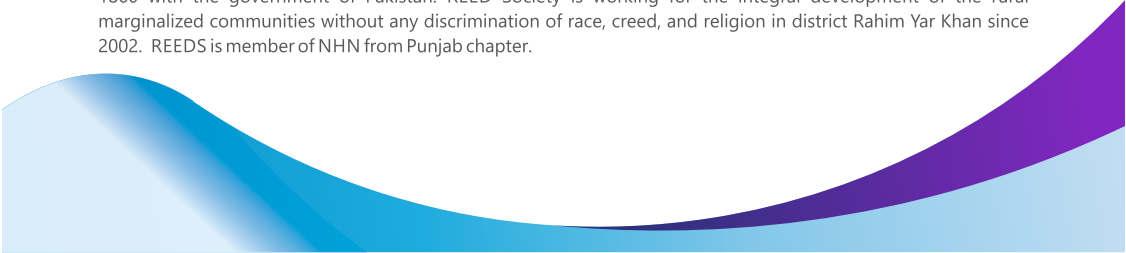


The tool allowed members to directly participate through their smartphones, computers or tablets, while different field facilitators and lead farmers gathered groups of 8-10 farmers at multiple locations where they attended the session on shared devices following the SOPs for COVID-19 prevention. The sessions contained Power Point presentations from the REEDS staff and FFC experts, followed by Questions & Answer sessions from the participants.

One of the seminars with the title "Profitable Cotton Production" was joined by 213 direct participants from Sindh and Punjab. The participants included field facilitators, male and female farmers, lead farmers and master trainers.

Farmers commitment and REEDS team dedication resulted in the timely and effective completion of the capacity building activities.

REEDS is a non-profitable, non-government and humanitarian organization, registered under the Registration Act of 1860 with the government of Pakistan. REED Society is working for the integral development of the rural marginalized communities without any discrimination of race, creed, and religion in district Rahim Yar Khan since 2002. REEDS is member of NHN from Punjab chapter.

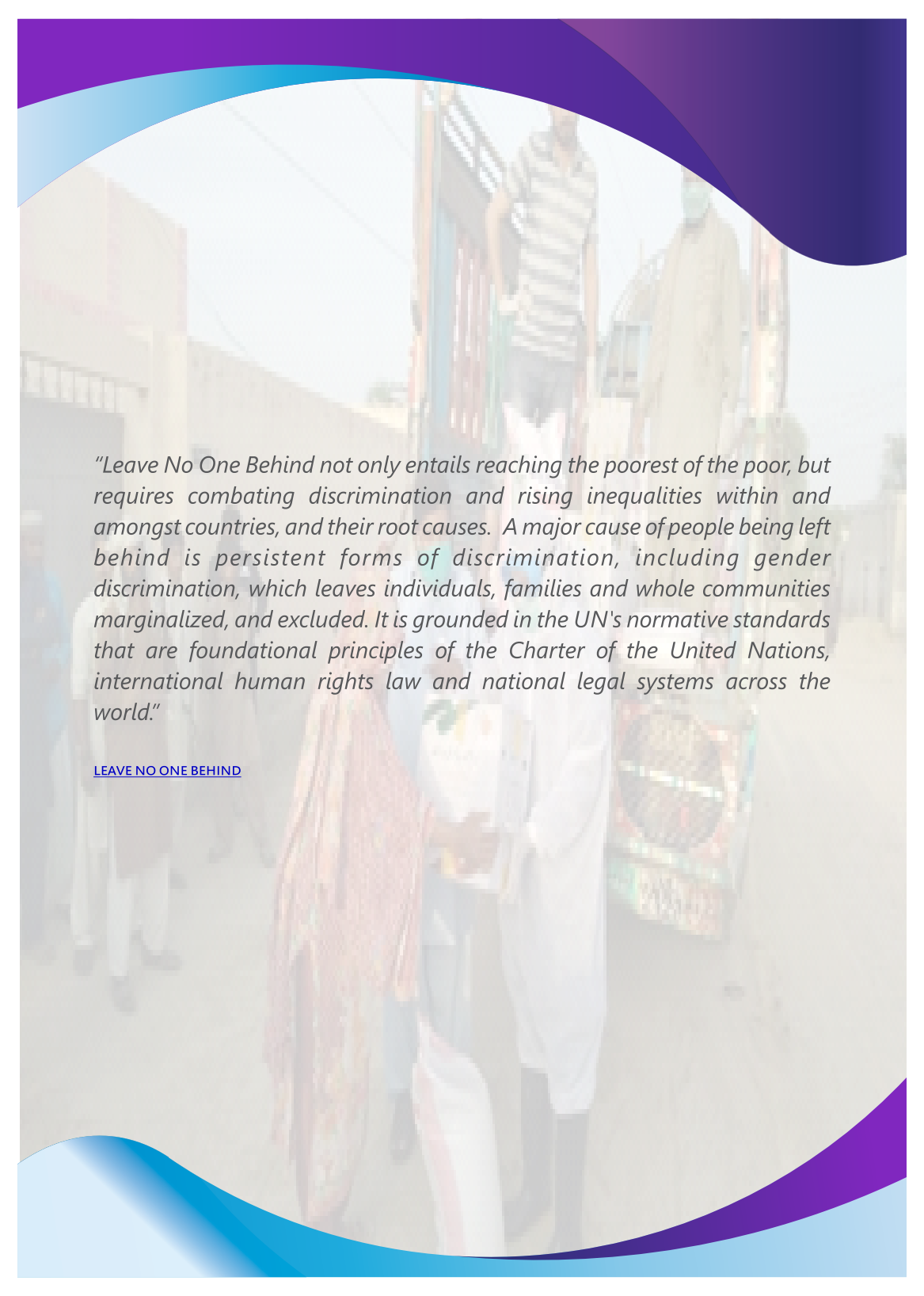




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“Leave No One Behind not only entails reaching the poorest of the poor, but requires combating discrimination and rising inequalities within and amongst countries, and their root causes. A major cause of people being left behind is persistent forms of discrimination, including gender discrimination, which leaves individuals, families and whole communities marginalized, and excluded. It is grounded in the UN’s normative standards that are foundational principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international human rights law and national legal systems across the world.”

[LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND](#)

End Discrimination and Exclusion and Reduce The Inequalities

Lodhran Pilot Project initiated its COVID-19 emergency relief program under its corporate social responsibility initiative. The social structures developed by the organization at community level were utilized to identify and distribute 11000 food bags to the most vulnerable families and households in Jhang, Multan and Lodhran. Keeping in view of protection and safety of community volunteers and staff all possible recommended measures were adopted and personal protective equipment's [PPE] were made mandatory during the whole identification and distribution process. In addition, during door to door visits CRPs and community activists also delivered health and hygiene messages to family's members. It is pertinent to mention here that LPP M&E department conducted pre and post verification telephonically based on information provided by community volunteers. During this verification process health and hygiene messages related with COVID-19 also disseminated. Through post distribution verification beneficiary satisfaction rate was recorded 95%. Before distribution beneficiary data was also triangulated with Ehsas program for removing overlapping and to reach out most marginalized families like daily wagers, hawkers, transgender and women headed families.

Guru Babar belongs to the transgender community he informed that "We used to perform on different occasions to earn our bread and butter. Sudden lockdown seized all the activities as a result our economic situation continued to deteriorate due to the suspension of business activities. To ensure our safety we are unable to move outside freely. We are thankful to LPP who provides support and fulfil our needs."

In District Jhang Village Disaster Management Committees [VDMCs] &



Union council disaster management committee [UDMCs] had been formed through previous initiatives. These structures have been capacitated on community-based disaster risk management including livelihood/food security. These VDMCs and UDMCs raised funds from local community members and philanthropists to support marginalized families through provision of food ration packs at their door steps. While responding this initiative Mr. Allah Ditta of Gail Pur remarked that

“The poor in our surrounding have lost their daily means of earning due to lock down and hence their purchasing power diminished then we thought to stop selling our animals milk and decided to distribute among poor families who cannot purchase milk for their children and provided the milk at their door step.”

LPP is a non-profit organization committed to aiding underprivileged communities in Punjab and member of National Humanitarian Network (NHN). NHN is the lead network of local NGOs working in the humanitarian sector. The network was established in 2010 to act as an independent and vibrant voice of the communities and to engage with stakeholders throughout Pakistan for promotion of humanitarian values by influencing policies and building capacities to ensure right based humanitarian response. Initiatives like these remind us that taking right action at the right time from the right people is the societies greatest advantage.

