



Monthly

E-NEWSLETTER

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Reach us at

Sami Foundation Head Office
Near Eye Hospital, Akbar-e-Azam Road, Umerkot
Post code 69100, Phone: +92 238 571 593
sami.foundation@gmail.com; www.samifoundation.org.pk

Editor: Suresh Kumar Pragani

Editorial Board: Mir Hassan Arisar
Haji Hoat Khan
Bahadur Khan Khoso

SF Vision

SF envisions a just, inclusive, equitable, enlightened and responsible society.

SF Mission

SF works with marginalized groups for integrated community development and socio-economic empowerment through access to basic facilities, human resource development, partnership building, awareness-raising and rights based advocacy.

SF Core Values

- Respect for all
- Team building
- Non-discrimination
- Inclusion
- Co-existence
- Transparency & Accountability
- Humanity is above all

Our Slogan

Bringing Change Together

From Editor's Desk

WHEN WILL PEOPLE GET BENEFIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM?

Since its came into existence Pakistan has rarely witnessed continuity of democracy and democratic institution either these are national, provincial or local. Although dictatorship regimes were always blamed for not giving rights to the people, but we have been observing that democratic governments never encouraged or willingly gave people right to elect their local government representatives and work in the interest of people at grass root level. Local government system, whatsoever their forms and functionality, was remained made functional in dictatorships.

After long wait and demand from people, only Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa provinces took lead to conduct elections at grass root level and functionalized local government system while Sindh and Punjab government resisted and used delaying tactics for long but ultimately they were also compelled to held election of local government.

Although much time has been passed to local government elections and taking oath of offices by Mayors and Chairmen of different grass root local bodies but functioning of these institutions is yet not observed. The basic services supposed to be provided by these local government institutions to address day to day life issues of the people are not seen functioning and people face similar situation as were facing before the elections. Recently Sindh government has seized the funds of local government institutions that again created questions why these institutions are deprived of the required funds to provide basic services to the people at grass root level.

People has raised many hopes, that is natural, that they would be provided clean drinking water, sanitation, street lights, better road infrastructure in cities as well as in rural villages and other such services which is their right. We on behalf of the common citizen demand from the provincial government to address this issue in the interest of people and allow local government institutions to function effectively and efficiently in provision of basic services to the people to make day to day life of the people easy and better.

Local Rights Program

During the reporting month the following key activities conducted under programme of LRP-34.

Regular Visit of Women Economic and Education Activities

During reporting month regular meetings were conducted with community groups (Men, Women, Youth & Children), meetings women artisan groups, visits of enterprise shops, goats and ber plants at field level also conducted. During these follow up visits detail field based activities carried and 14 regular meetings of WEG in which women participated

Regular Meeting Community Support Groups

Regular follow up 14 CSG meetings also conducted in LRP villages in which 41 male and 130 female participated however participation



was little bit low due to rainy season & different engagements

Monitoring Cum Support Visit by Action Aid Pakistan

Action Aid Pakistan Conduct Monitoring Cum-Support Visit of LRP-34 Project Day-1st Delegation conducted meeting with Project Staff and SF Management, Meeting started with warm welcome by Mr. Haji Hoat Khan (Project Coordinator)

LRP-34 Project to Madam Fakhira Abro (Program officer) & Mr. Zeeshan Mehmood (Assistant Finance & Admin officer) AAPK area office Karachi. After introduction



Ms. Fakhira Abro Shared the purpose of visit, later Mr. Haji Hoat Khan shared project progress and field visit plan. Ms. Fakhira Abro raised the questions on project progress that were responded by Coordinator, Program Manager as well as ED.

Joint Meeting with RSU Representative and Action Aid Pakistan Team

During reporting period Conducted Joint meeting with RSU Representative (Mr. Muhammad Luqman Nohri) and Action Aid Pakistan Representative Ms. Fakhira Abro, Mr. Haji Hoat Khan shared the purpose of joint meeting that Sami Foundation has been working in Education with support of Action Aid Pakistan in Union Council Kaplor, Sekharo and Municipal Committee Umerkot in this regard we want to know that education scenario of district Umerkot and role of RSU for the betterment of education and how it works.

LSU Coordinator briefed the visiting guest about Education reform initiative being made under RSU umbrella in District Umerkot Mr.

Muhammad Luqman Nohri says the RSU established a district wise local support unit (LSU) which works with education department .There are 2234 schools with semis code 324 non semis code schools in district Umerkot.

Ms. Fakhira Abro expressed her satisfaction over the performance of LSU Umerkot in ensuring fair



implementation of reforms oriented initiatives like SMC funds, Girls Stipend, SSB, OTG & Teachers Induction Training.

Joint Meeting with AZRI Representative and Action Aid Pakistan Team

Meeting started with introduction of participants and followed by brief introduction by Dr. Attaullah Pathan Director AZRI.

It is also shared that SF provided grafted ber plants in village Ratnora



with the technical support of AZRI which are successfully growing and will produce fruit in this season, Madam Fakhra shared that Sami foundation & ActionAid wants to

replicate this model in other LRP villages for the empowerment of women & fulfill their nutritional requirement & economy ,and also supported 300 new grafted ber plants in three villages Ratnore, Ramsar and Vikolkar Dr. Attaullah agreed and said that AZRI will remain in close coordination with Sami Foundation & Action Aid Pakistan to enhance these successful models in LRP-34 villages and will also introduce new fruit plants, grosses according to environment and water need in this area. Ms. Fakhira Abro said that this very interesting and successful farming in arid area and pleased to see these whole efforts of AZRI and agreed that AAPK and SF will remain in close coordination in future

Joint Meeting with Education Monitoring Cell Representative and Action Aid Pakistan Team

Meeting started with the introduction of participants and followed by brief introduction of this department by CMO that this project initiated from 19th April 2016 as first phase on excess and 2nd phase will be on quality of education. Reporting line is Director General monitoring & secretary education. He shared that after intervention, there are 300 school are opened and more than 90% teachers are regularized, which is big achievement because mostly schools were closed and teachers were not going to their schools due to corruption of department & illegal political influence and support, so after this project it is now decreased and schools are running properly which was a big challenge for me and my team, of 20 assistant monitoring officers

Sami Foundation is in close coordination with me and my team, they support us in logistic (Vehicle) for monitoring of schools in desert area because we have no 4*4 vehicle and issues identification regarding closed schools and absent teachers, through this support we succeed to open closed schools and regularize teachers of this area otherwise we were not able to monitor those schools ,however Sami foundation also support me in past in district Tharparkar where I was a ADC-1 and I have adopted some schools of Thar in which Sami foundation supported me in furniture and stationery for children and hope that it will continue in future

Ms. Fakhira Abro shared that Action Aid Pakistan is working for



marginalized communities of backward areas of Pakistan especially on women empowerment & quality education with partners and we work with coordination of Government.

Field Visit of Action Aid Pakistan Team

Ms. Fakhira Abro & Zeeshan Mahmood conducted field visit with Project team & conducted meetings with women and community support groups and got situation of village before Action Aid Pakistan & Sami Foundation work and different interventions, support of goats,



shops, Grafted ber in village Ratnore & Viklokar and progress of women groups that how they meet challenges of economic as well as women rights like importance of their right of vote, decision making at house hold level as well as in other women rights and also about early marriages, responsibilities of office bearers and checked field level documents, Mr. Zeeshan Mahmood checked budgeted interventions, visited 50 grafted ber plants in village Ratnore successful which were planted in 2015 and also 100 new grafted Ber plantation in Ratnore, Shop of women group member name Sundri in Ratnore and checked record of groups.

Micro Finance and Enterprise Development

Sami Foundation’s MF&ED project provides assistance to poorest



people of the area, especially women, to initiate and strengthen their small enterprise for better livelihood and socio-economic uplift. During this month 55 beneficiaries selected as group members and 10 as individual through a

comprehensive process and verification.

Joint Social Action for Equal Rights and Opportunities for Minorities of Faith & Belief in Umerkot

SAMI Foundation with support of **NCA** is implementing this project in District Umerkot on rights of minorities of faith and belief.

Follow up Meeting Community Peace Groups (CPG)

During Reporting period conducted 09 follow up meeting with CPGs for conducting community awareness



sessions and their active role in peace promotion and for prevention of issues in community.

Community Awareness Session

During reporting periods 50 Community Awareness Session



conducted in different villages/communities of targeted area through trained MRDs for promotion of rights of faith and belief and for peace and interfaith harmony. Also MRDs play active role

in prevention of community based issues.

Meeting with Faith/Social Actors and Duty Bearers

During Reporting Periods Conducted



Meeting with Faith/Social Actors and Duty Bearers To Promote Protection For Minority Rights at district Umerkot, where it is decided to play active role for promotion of rights and protection of minority women. The forum also decided to highlight the role of women at decision level for that they shall involve the active women of district Umerkot at every forum.

Celebration of Joint Event on Religious Day

Sami Foundation organized a mega event for its joint celebration at village Vehro Sharif, It was a great



opportunity for **Joint Celebration Of Religious Festival Deewali** with minority of district Umerkot, in this regards more than 300 people participated in the festival including women and children from different

religious, the speakers delivered the message of brotherhood, love and peace in Umerkot, Bhagat Satram Das said that these types of festival promote peace and brother hood in the community and also we can deliver the message and history of such events in the community and highlight their importance. On this occasion Mr. Mir Hassan Arisar, Program Manager Sami Foundation said that we want to promote peace and brotherhood so we decided to celebrate this festival with you and we are feeling happy to become the part of this celebration. The people welcomed the initiative and applauded efforts of SF for harmony among various faiths and beliefs.

One Day Training of Taluka Level Women Group

Sami Foundation organized three 1-



day training workshops for Taluka Level Women Group members on Leadership Skill and Role in Peace Building. In this regard 41 women from Taluka Kunri, Taluka Samaro and Taluka Pithoro Groups participated and trained through this training workshop.

