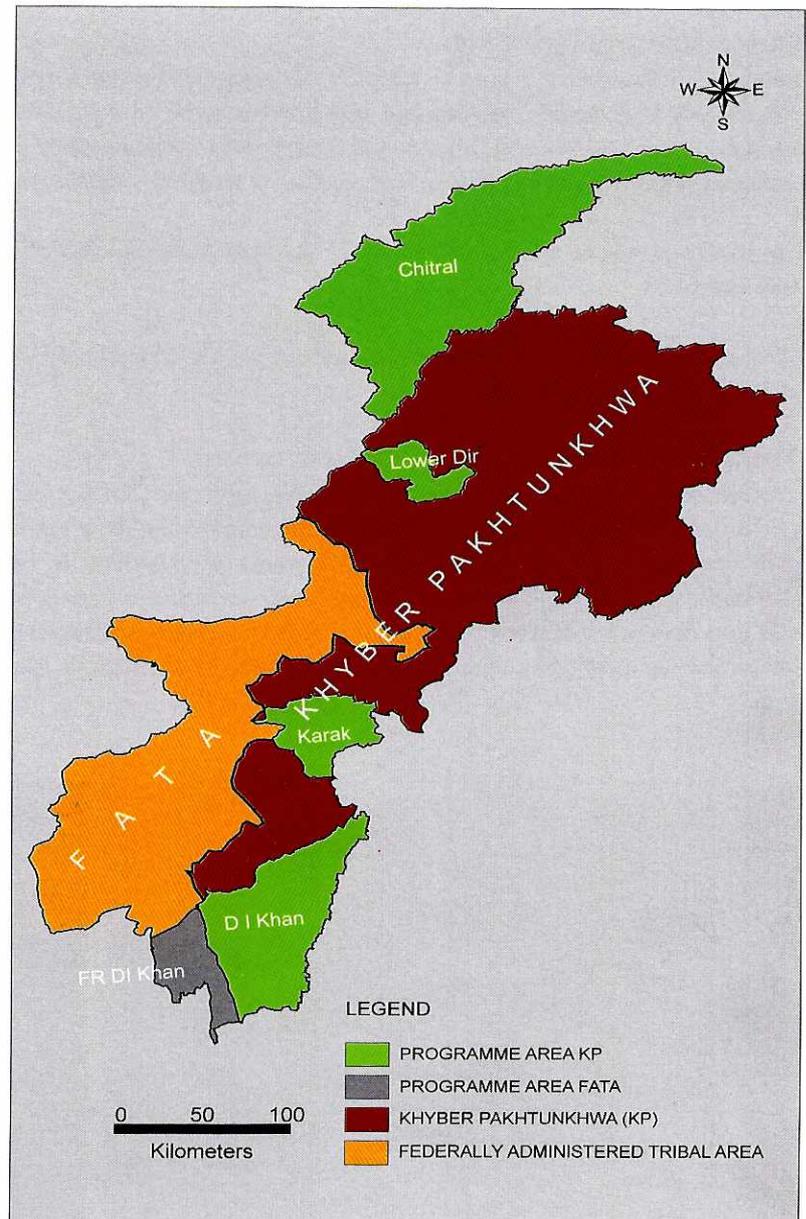


WATER FOR LIVELIHOOD PROJECT

Water for Livelihood Project (W4L) focuses on improving and securing livelihoods and increasing food security of communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA) of Pakistan through sustainable, secure and equitable access to water. The project aims at improving quality of life and reducing vulnerabilities of marginalised communities in rainfed areas through community based water schemes including safe drinking water, water conveyance system for agriculture, watershed management and disaster risk reduction measures particularly with regard to climatic variability and climate change impacts. The project builds on the experiences of previous Swiss-supported initiatives on water management, particularly the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush (LPH). W4L is active in four districts and one Federally Administered Tribal Area (see map).

Strategy and approach

In 2008, the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush (LPH), capitalising on successful elements of four previous SDC-funded projects, was launched by SDC and is being implemented by Intercooperation in collaboration with Planning & Development Department (P&DD) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA Secretariat. The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush has been working in seven districts of the province (Chitral, Swat, Lower Dir, Buner, Haripur, Karak and DI Khan) and in three FATA areas (FR DI Khan, Bajaur and Mohmand). The LPH has accumulated diversified and successful experiences in the water sector, though at a small scale. In particular, three sub-sectors have been actively supported by the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush:



1. Provision of clean drinking water in remote villages which were deprived of such basic facilities
2. Promotion of low-cost Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures (infrastructures combined with biological and social measures) in villages subject to regular flooding
3. Increase food security, through the provision of additional irrigation water, in areas where the agriculture productivity is very low due to regular droughts and insufficient availability of water

These experiences are directly transferable by W4L project for up-scaling. Logically, the project focuses on the following key areas, depending on the district, need and context:

- Protection of water catchments (including upstream measures, watershed improvement) linked with the safe conveyance of water for irrigation to improve access to maximum users (FR DI Khan, DI Khan, Chitral and Lower Dir)
- Capture water through reservoirs for storing surface water and for groundwater recharge in order to improve quality of drinking water and feeding of small irrigation schemes (Karak)

The infrastructure components of the project are embedded in the processes that strengthen community organisations to take charge of their development

Key areas of intervention

W4L intervenes in five major components in water sector.

- a. Access to Water – safe drinking water; water for food and water rights
- b. Dryland Management – increase food security and production
- c. Watershed Management – for increased protection of livelihoods and stabilisation
- d. Disaster Risk Management/Reduction (Floods, Flash Floods, Drought) – to avoid catastrophic effects of water scarcity/abundance
- e. Adaptation to climate change particularly to cater for changing availability of water for agriculture and livestock

All of the above is realised through complimentary approach with the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush, particularly in common geographical areas.

Partnership arrangements

Water for Livelihood Project is as an extended component of the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush, based on the LPH experiences and partnerships. Institutionally therefore, the project will have the same set up as the LPH, due to its operational success and convenience. Partnership with Planning and Development Department of Government of KP and FATA Secretariat for policy and strategic support and understanding are based on tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between the Government, donor (SDC), and Intercooperation.

Partnership with local NGOs and private sector institutions/organisations is based on community needs for the implementation of interventions.

Working relationships with government line agencies are being established/capitalised (e.g. On Farm Water Management, Irrigation, Public Health, Forests and Agriculture).

The future outlook

W4L strives for a strong collaboration with its sister project the LPH and related partners at all levels. A primary focus is to ensure access to clean drinking water to immediately reduce the crisis. Water development and conservation schemes are being introduced in close collaboration with government line agencies to enhance productivity of the farmlands not to miss the upcoming production seasons. Watershed management, disaster risk management and climate forecast application - related interventions go side by side in collaboration with the LPH since all these activities are connected to reducing the vulnerability of the marginalised from climate change related hazards. Issues such as water users' rights and equitable access to water will be thoroughly assessed and strategised for concrete actions in the field.



Key facts:

The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush The Water for Livelihood Project

Funding: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Implementation: Intercooperation Pakistan in collaboration with the Planning and Development Department Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA Secretariat

Geographical coverage: Districts of Chitral, Swat, Dir Lower, Karak, DI Khan of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Frontier Region of DI Khan and Agencies of Bajaur and Mohmand

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A WOMAN LEADER – JANNAT BIBI'S JOURNEY

Muhammad Asad Salim and Fatima Daud Kamal

Interview by: Rania Tamkeen Zaidi



I am originally from DI Khan, which you can certainly call a big city if you compare it to Kot Musa. Right after getting married, my husband brought me to Kot Musa. It was a village cocooned in ancient traditions where hand mills were still used for grinding wheat into flour, hand looms for making thread, selling of which used to get me only Rs.2. Stuck in time and cut off from the world, the villagers of Kot Musa were cruel to their women. The women would work all day, tend their children, husbands and in-laws and still get beaten if she so much as mentioned her back-breaking work. I was from the city and could not come to terms with the situation around me, hence would often get beaten by my husband. I lived with that but then, the basic necessities of life were so drastically lacking: there was no water, no electricity, medicines and most of all the fact that household animals were better kept than the woman of the house, would kill me. Woman of the house indeed! The husband would treat his wife like he would treat his shoes, thrown off into a corner after you are done with her usefulness.

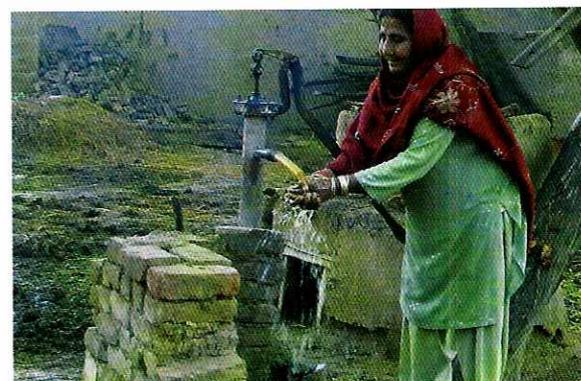
Now that I look back at it. I have passed my life in the circumstances I just mentioned. I raised 8 healthy children, how many have died I shall not mention here. But raising children, time and of course, age made me stronger in will power. I knew I had to bring about some changes or else I should just die moaning my lost freedom.

Kot Musa is a remote village of the Musazai Union Council – Chodwan Zam. It is situated at a distance of 90 Km from DI Khan city. There are a total of 387 Households in the village with a population of about 4000. The story begins from 1999 when a Non Formal Education school was established in Kot Musa by DFID. I was very concerned about the education of my children, so I approached the Education Committee formed by SPO (implementing partners with DFID). They told me about forming an interest group so that they could start once they see a demand for education, which I did. In the beginning, I mustered 7 women from my village and formed a group. From there onwards, I felt I could achieve something and when in 2003 Intercooperation started developmental activities in the region through the Project for Livelihood Improvement (PLI), I soon became the most vocal and efficient community member and started participating in the developmental activities. I was motivated by the fact that I had suffered more than my share of beatings, but my daughters should not be undergoing the same at the hands of their husbands.

When the agriculture and livestock activities were carried out by the PLI, I strongly raised the issue of shortage of fodder in the area, to which, I am grateful to say, the SPO team along with Intercooperation heeded. They helped and taught us about planting fodder and fruit trees at home level utilising an ancient yet new - Pitcher technique. The IC project also indulged us in livestock management trainings, animal vaccinations and running Farmer Field schools in Kot Musa. We were all shown how to grow new varieties of gram and wheat and most importantly, how to store these crop grains, protecting from insects. Then they showed us how to grow modd grass, which the animals love to eat. A simple idea brought on by PLI, was that the poorest women were provided goats and poultry (to promote their status) and for livelihood improvement. These women would earn some money by selling the goat kids and the eggs and in this way set the wheel of fortune turning. The ratio of livestock mortality drastically decreased due to the timely vaccinations. We the women have developed a strong taste for the recently taught activity, i.e. of kitchen gardening. We now grow all sorts of vegetables to cater to our households, vegetables such as onions, tomatoes, carrots and cabbages. We get to sell some as well.



We were all so excited to see some positive activity in our village; everyone seemed abuzz with what's coming next. We quickly moved on to another major problem which was of water. Our group raised this issue and were shown how to make a proposal, which we did (with help, of course) and came up with a proposal worth Rs.1,20,000/- for the installation of hand pumps. SPO approved the proposal with the support of PLI and a hand pump was eventually installed in this village which, being the first hand pump, serves majority of the villages of union council Musazai. I also got to learn that we need to open a joint bank account for operating the hand pump funds, for which I personally went to a bank in the main DI Khan city.



All along this journey I never once wavered from my dreams. I went to the Tomb of Hazrat Sultan Bahoo and at the Tomb of Hazrat Sultan Bahoo, where I prayed many a times to Almighty Allah to change my life. My husband had been watching my activities all along: sometimes ready to thrash the living daylight out of me but gradually he saw the determination in my eyes and I think he realised I had reached a breaking point. I believe this because he gave me Rs.6000/- saying "expand this amount if you can but in the future do not ask for anything". That was enough for starting a small shop: I erected a mud-hut myself, bought some items from DI Khan and set up shop. My husband and even my children raised many objections, mostly that 'being a woman how can you run a shop,' or that 'we cannot bear your opening and operating a shop because it is against our prestige and respect'. To all I said that working on your land – tilling, sowing and then harvesting, all by myself, never, not even once did I raise any objection. But now that I am old and want to do my own thing, your respect is coming in the way? I was not in mood for any such 'respect' to come in my way ever again. For earning a bit more I also established a Public Call Office for our community's convenience in keeping in touch with their loved ones.

I now work with a few other projects too, wherever I deem it best for my village and people. Projects which work on Gender, Conflicts and Citizen voices on Health and Education. I am very aware of the need and importance of a citizen's national identity card (NIC) which many women in our region never bother to make for themselves. I explain that the NIC is urgent and their basic right. I am proud to say that my campaign urged approximately 300 women to get their NICs issued.

There are times when I wake up in the middle of the night, fearing life as I used to know it back when I was young but then I remember that now my village women are much better off, they are keen in getting their children educated, work with their husbands alongside and to a huge extent provide him with financial support and most importantly, many husbands acknowledge that. What more could I have dreamed of? Projects such as Intercooperation get to help not just the downtrodden women but whole communities as well.

That, is my life in a nutshell....and yet, newer horizons are still never afar!

Key facts:

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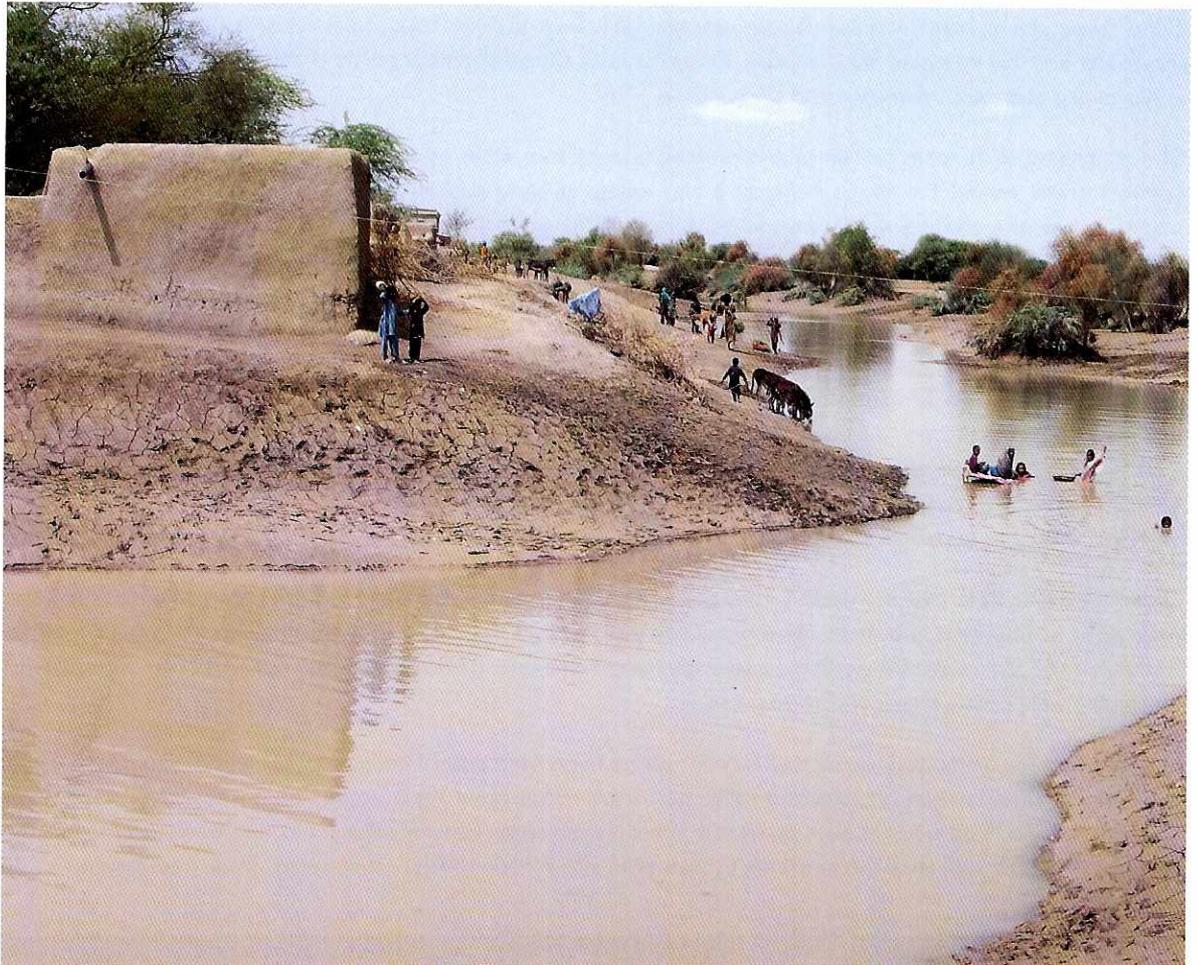


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WOMEN RAISING VOICES AND INFLUENCING THE DECISIONS FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT

Abid Latif and Fahim Iqbal



Gandi Esab a village of 130 households having population of more than thousands individuals is located at midstream of Daraban zam catchment area, about 50km towards west from Dera Ismail Khan city. The structure of houses is muddy kacha, while agricultural and livestock rearing are major sources of income in vicinity. It is located on bank of Sad Naleen water channel which receives flood water from Koh-e-Suleman hill ranges especially in monsoon flood season. Sad Naleen is main channel of Rudh Kohi which diverts flood water into sub channels and fields for irrigation; in peak floods it receives 1000 cusecs of flood water from adjacent hill ranges.

During 2010 floods entire village was in great trouble, as village protection wall was badly damaged, gullies are visible at many places in village protection wall around village; similarly due to excessive silt in flood water, too much silt is deposited in channel bed which reduce existing height of protection wall as a result water channel capacity is also reduced during floods, which increase vulnerability of village in monsoon floods and increase risk that flood water spillover in vicinity. In such worst conditions protection wall needs instant rehabilitation before starting monsoon season to mitigate risk of damages. According to initial damages assessment conducted by VEER total 42 houses were damaged completely, 28 were partially damaged and 42 families were displaced during flood and shifted to safe places.

Ms. Islam bibi 65 year old is residing in mudded house at village Gandi Esab with her two brothers and six sisters. Gandi Esab, her main living source for survival are small livestock and poultry rearing. Being as residence of this village she has seen all those terrible and harsh situations during 2010 flood which makes catastrophe in almost all area of Rudh Kohi including her village also. Her family was also among those unfortunate families whose small house was partially damaged in flood and she was forced to shift to adjacent village. After a day and

night struggle of one long year the family was able to their house back.

During 2011 sad Naleen distribution point has been rehabilitated by VEER with support of Intercooperation in Water for Livelihood project, after rehabilitation during floods main water pressure shifted to village Gandi Esab protection wall as sad Naleen water channel passes adjacent to village.

One day passing on her way to collect fuel wood, Ms. Islam Bibi (W4L team) of experts who were on visit to rehabilitate the channel, Ms. Islam bibi pointed out to the team that I don't have land and I don't have any concerns you are building nalas to irrigate the land. "I am worried for my kacha a house and other house to protect from the flood "further she explains that is not only her issue but it is communal problem and it is voice of almost all poor families residing in village. The team who were on visit to Sad Naleen in village Gandi Esab , she on behalf of entire village requested W4L team to rehabilitate protection wall of village to safeguard thousands population especially from the expected flood threats . She physically shows all critical points in protection wall where possibly flood water spillover in village and may cause damages and destructions.

She suggested W4L team to visit protection wall from all four sides to see protection wall around the village because it may cause of some mishap in future. Further she explains that it is good initiative by W4L project to focus on water both for irrigation and drinking purpose, but beside this protecting villagers, livestock and their valuable assets from flood damages is one of most important and essential need as frequency of disaster in last few decades increases especially in rural areas of Rudh Kohi. She told that water channel passes near village is only channel which will carry flood water of Sad Naleen, due to rehabilitation of Sad Naleen water pressure on water channel has been increased which may result of spilling flood water in village. She assures W4L team that since it an entire village problem, all villagers will contribute both in cash and kinds for successful completion of scheme as they participate and contribute in cash and coins during rehabilitation work.



Expert team from W4L took this serious issue on table and decided to rehabilitate protection wall on priority basis before monsoon season. After approval from W4L provincial office protection wall has been rehabilitated well before monsoon season with active participation and involvement of community. Village Organization and local community participate actively during rehab process and completed successfully redressing work before monsoon flood season.

In recent flood on 26-August -2012 Sad Naleen receive huge flood water from hill torrents which irrigate thousands kanals of agricultural lands; taking wise decision of protecting village from flood makes great job as entire village was safe during floods and no damages were not reported . All flood water passes peacefully in pal Naleen water channel adjacent to village without any loss or damages. All villagers including Ms. Islam bibi were too much happy with W4L intervention which protect entire village from damages.

This year flood season peacefully ended without making any damages to my assets and house as all my assets are safe; it provide me an opportunity to improve my family livelihoods by investing saving in purchasing more poultry and small goats; and will produce more eggs and milk for selling.

Key facts:

The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush The Water for Livelihood Project

Funding: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Implimentation: Intercooperation Pakistan in collaboration with the Planning and Development Department Government of Khyber pakhtunkhwa and FATA Secretariat

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RESTORING LIVELIHOODS AND AGRICULTURE

Abid Latif and Fahim Iqbal



More than two thirds of district DI Khan is either rain-fed (Barani) or Rudh Kohi (Hill torrents). The area between Suleman Range and the Indus River comprising DI Khan district constitutes a huge wasteland locally known as Daman Area. Five major hill torrents, called zams, along with a number of small ones, traverse Daman area. Floods of different magnitude hit the area, generally during monsoon, a part of which is utilized by the locals in a traditional manner of irrigation called the "Rudh Kohi System".

During monsoon and winters/spring season when it rains heavily in the Koh-Suleman mountain range, Afghanistan and neighboring province of Baluchistan, the floodwaters travel through mountains and enter the pampas of the area through different passages known as zams. There are five major zams in Rudh Kohi area namely Gomal zam, Tank zam, Sheikh Haider zam, Daraban zam and Chodwan zam.

Sheikh Haider zam is located between Gomal and Daraban zam; where flood and perennial water of zam is mostly used for irrigation as well as for drinking purpose. Perennial water is used in upstream villages because the quantity is not enough for utilisation in downstream villages, similarly flood water magnitude is more hence it is mostly used for irrigation and drinking purposes in almost all villages of Sheikh Haider zam.

Sheikh Haider zam's total catchment area is 175 square miles, comprising of 11 villages in up, mid and downstream having total populations of 22960 individuals, 1978 families and total land of 53355 acres. Maximum discharge of zam is 40000 cusecs while minimum discharge is 10 cusecs having network length of 83 miles. Water is then divided into 2 main water channels which are Rudh Sawaan and Rudh Toya which irrigate agricultural lands through flood and perennial water.

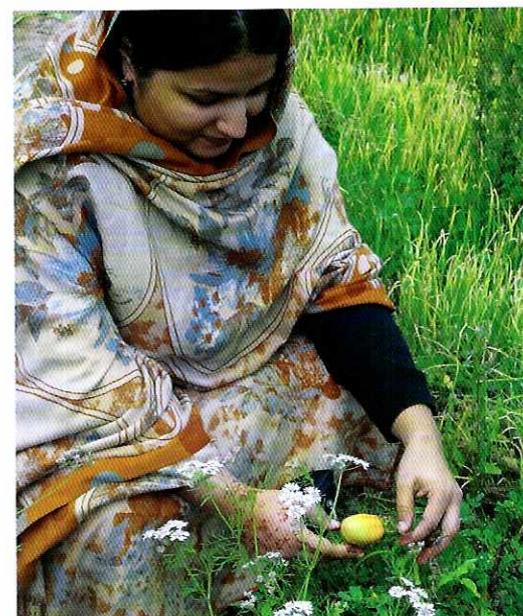
Sawaan Rudh is northern channel of sheikh Haiderzam which irrigates Zarkani, Kot Sultan, KotWali Dad, Gara Mastan, Saggu and at the end its water reaches to village Kohawar at downstream. Similarly RudhToya irrigates southern side of Gara Mastan, Gara Mehmood, Gara Khan and Gandhi Ashiq later on towards the end it irrigates downstream villages Gara Moladad and Kohwar.

Area of Sheikh Haider zam is very much deprived and a lot of issues exist related to sustainable land management like soil degradation, poor land management, poor water conveyance system etc. Main reasons are that this is a harsh area, neglected by Government and Donor Agencies. Keeping in view the worst condition of the irrigation system, VEER with the support of Intercooperation has intervened in the area specially focusing on water sector, improving livelihoods and mitigating risk during floods focusing on DRR.

Gara Mastan is a village of 155 households and 1540 individuals is located at upstream Sheikh Haider zam, in which main source of income is agriculture and livestock. The irrigation system of village was damaged badly during flood 2010, Rudh sawaan passing near village Gara Mastan was damaged at many places, embankments were washed out, silt deposited in channel bed and gullies are visible at several points. As a result the flood water wastes without irrigating fields, since the entire flood area is too deprived and non-functional due to the damage to the agricultural system. After 2010 not a single acre land was irrigated causing complete cessation in raising crops hence economically affecting the community. As a result most people migrated to other areas in search of some source of income. The damaged irrigation system also adversely effected livestock and families as no drinking water was available for livestock in grazing lands and lack of fodder resulted in increased weight loss in livestock. Overall the area was facing economic recession as result of non functional Rudh Kohi irrigation system.



The water user group of Gara Mastan and Gara Mehmood conducted a series of meetings to develop joint consensus regarding rehabilitation of Sad Sawaan irrigation channel to restore their livelihood and revival of economic activities. Similarly a detailed negotiation was held among all other villages situated at downstream and having rights on Sad Sawaan flood water. All concerned farmers and villagers strongly agreed recommending rehabilitation of irrigation system for restoring lives.



Water user groups of all villages passed unanimous resolution for rehabilitation of Sad Sawaan irrigation channel and agreed to provide support in both cash and kind. After receiving the application and resolution from the community, VEER forwarded it to Water for Livelihood regional team for visiting the site, and to meet with the local community to practically witness the damages and dire need of community.

Water for Livelihood project team approved rehabilitation of Sad Sawaan at village Gara Mastan. For initiation of civil work on the scheme, a proper survey was done by the technical experts and engineers of Irrigation department for developing the design and layout for the proposed scheme. A scheme agreement was developed upon the approval (from W4L team) of which civil work was initiated with full zeal and sprit. One could see an active involvement of local community and technical experts from different government department in order to provide facilitation during implementation. All concerned stakeholders worked hard day and night to complete the structure as per its specification well before monsoon season so that it can provide its benefit during seasonal floods and hill torrents.

Within the stipulated time frame the proposed structure was completed well before monsoon season having total length of 4100 feet, average height of 8 to 20 feet and top width of 10 to 15 feet as per approved design. All farmers played a vital and active role during implementation also staying on full time on rehab work. The scheme was completed in 2012, it irrigates almost 26875 acres land of 8 villages benefitting 525 households.

After rehabilitation of Sad Sawaan 23 poor families which had migrated from the village have returned and started working on their agricultural lands to prepare for crop sowing during monsoon season in July-August 2013. All other farmers having agricultural lands in downstream villages have also started work on land preparation for the next year's sowing. For proper operation and long time maintenance at village level, fund collecting and supervision committees are formed and trained so that they can effectively deliver their services for long time survival and benefit of scheme.

Rehabilitation of this main irrigation scheme will resume economic activities as in the coming year's floods, the agricultural lands will certainly be irrigated and not wasted.

Key facts:

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THE LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME HINDUKUSH

The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush (LPH) aims at reducing the vulnerability of rural communities in rain-fed areas of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province and FATA, of Pakistan, and ultimately improving the quality of life. It focuses particularly on marginalised men and women through increasing local economic opportunities (enhancing income and assets), promoting the sustainable management of natural resources, reducing risks from natural hazards and improving access to basic needs such as water and education. The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush builds on the experiences of previous Swiss-supported initiatives in the natural resource sector, dating back to 1982 and is actively engaged in seven districts two agencies and one Frontier Region in FATA. (see map).

Strategy and approach

1. Keep local people's livelihoods at the centre
2. A thorough understanding of the local context and potential, access to services and natural resources, governance issues, risks etc
3. A careful analysis of household assets
4. Support people in knowing their rights and obligations and gaining equitable access to resources and markets
5. In this empowering process, a balance in gender relations is promoted - whilst respecting social norms and values
6. Strengthen dialogue and collaboration between the programme stakeholders
7. Support and work with existing institutions rather than creating parallel structures

Given the security situation in KP and FATA, LPH adopts a conflict sensitive approach in the implementation of activities. This entails building trust at community level, working closely with local opinion leaders and local service providers, close monitoring of the sociopolitical situation, and remaining flexible to make the most of the opportunities.

Main partners

Communities

The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush works mainly through community-based organisations, interest groups which include business groups, village education committees, water users associations and family-based micro-enterprises. The LPH understands communities as development partners rather than as beneficiaries.

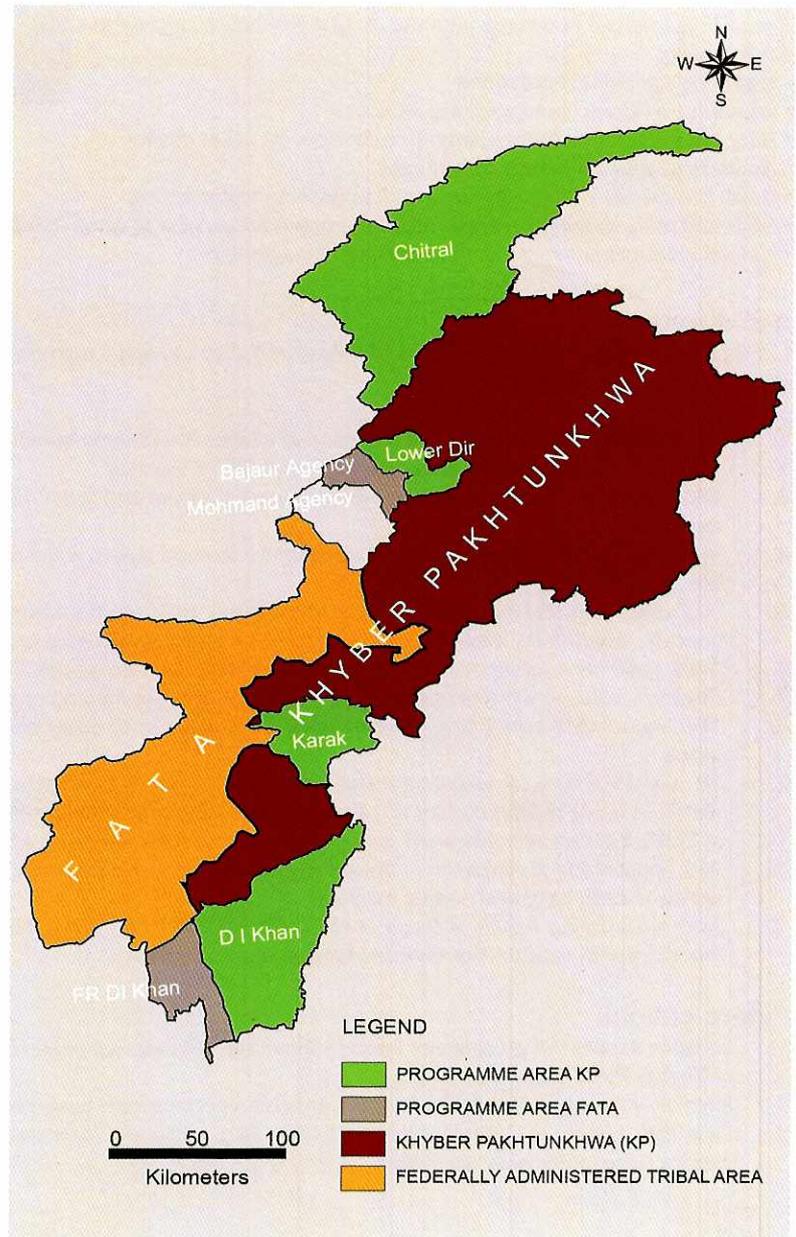
Private service providers

LPH works through a range of service providers, notably:

- Community based service providers – skilled women and men who provide specialised services
- Local and national NGOs - which conduct livelihood assessments and support the capacity building of community level institutions
- Financial, business and technical organisations – which provide specialised services such as organisational, business, management and institutional development, infrastructure and technology development, and integrated crop management

Government agencies

- Provincial and district government line agencies – which are supported in fulfilling their role to integrate the interests of poor and marginalised people in their plans, prioritising remote areas. LPH also interacts constantly with these agencies to ensure that field experience is considered in policy development



- Educational institutions – with which LPH interacts to supplement the formal education system such as supporting school drop-outs, girls' education and adult literacy Research organisations and universities – with which LPH collaborates on innovative studies, implementing pilot interventions, and the practical training of students and extension workers (particularly women)

In addition, LPH has specific partnerships with federal institutions and international agencies for knowledge sharing and local capacity building.

Areas of intervention

The LPH is involved in diverse aspects of rural livelihoods, including the following:

- Improving agricultural practices
- Improving livestock management practices
- Supporting better market opportunities for specific value chains
- Non-formal education and adult literacy
- Small community infrastructures including drinking water supply
- DRR and early warning systems/disaster preparedness, now in close collaboration with The Water for Livelihood Project
- Natural resource conservation and dryland management



Achievements

LPH has reached out to 342 villages in 17 valleys of 7 districts and 3 agencies with 51236 people (32151 men and 19085 women). Some of the salient achievements include:

1. 96 new NFE schools in remote locations of all the districts and agencies with 3611 children
2. 125 adult literacy centres with 3590 learners (2272 women)
3. 1780 farmers in villages produce certified seed of wheat and gram. 19% increase in income from wheat and 12% from gram was recorded
4. Productivity of 4048 acres of agricultural land improved due to water development. 572 acres of new land brought under agriculture (earlier wasteland)
5. In 5 villages in DI Khan, Karak, Swat and Chitral, frequent disasters have been addressed through protection structures. 3055 households can now avoid flood, 1343 acres of land is saved from eroding and can be used for cultivation instead
6. 1472 destitute families own 1846 goats under pass-on mechanism. 1734 families now own 16361 layer chickens
7. Sewing machines were provided to 156 women. They are earning an average net income of Rs. 31,000/year each
8. 168 households own 2 bee colonies each. Producers individually earn Rs. 1500-3500 per season besides increasing number of boxes
9. 23 women veterinary assistants were trained for 2 years certificate course with Animal Husbandry In-Service Training Institute (AHITI), Livestock Department KP. They are now inducted in the Livestock Department and serve women
10. In 2009, 640 households were engaged in pine nut collection with a total estimated income of Rs.10.0 million
11. 719 households participated in the activity of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) and earned Rs.3.0 million net income through selling to both local and nearby markets
12. After devastating floods in three of LPH districts (DI Khan, Karak and Swat) – relief and rehabilitation support was immediately mobilized with support from Swiss Humanitarian Aid (SHA)

Future outlook

1. Upscale successful programme intervention in the subsequent phase of the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush in selected districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA
2. Intensify value chain promotion/income generation component based on earlier experience
3. Give high priority to Disaster Risk Reduction (e.g. water development, drought mitigation, adaptation in agricultural practices and climate forecast for early warning)

Key facts:

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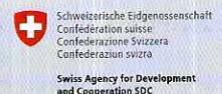
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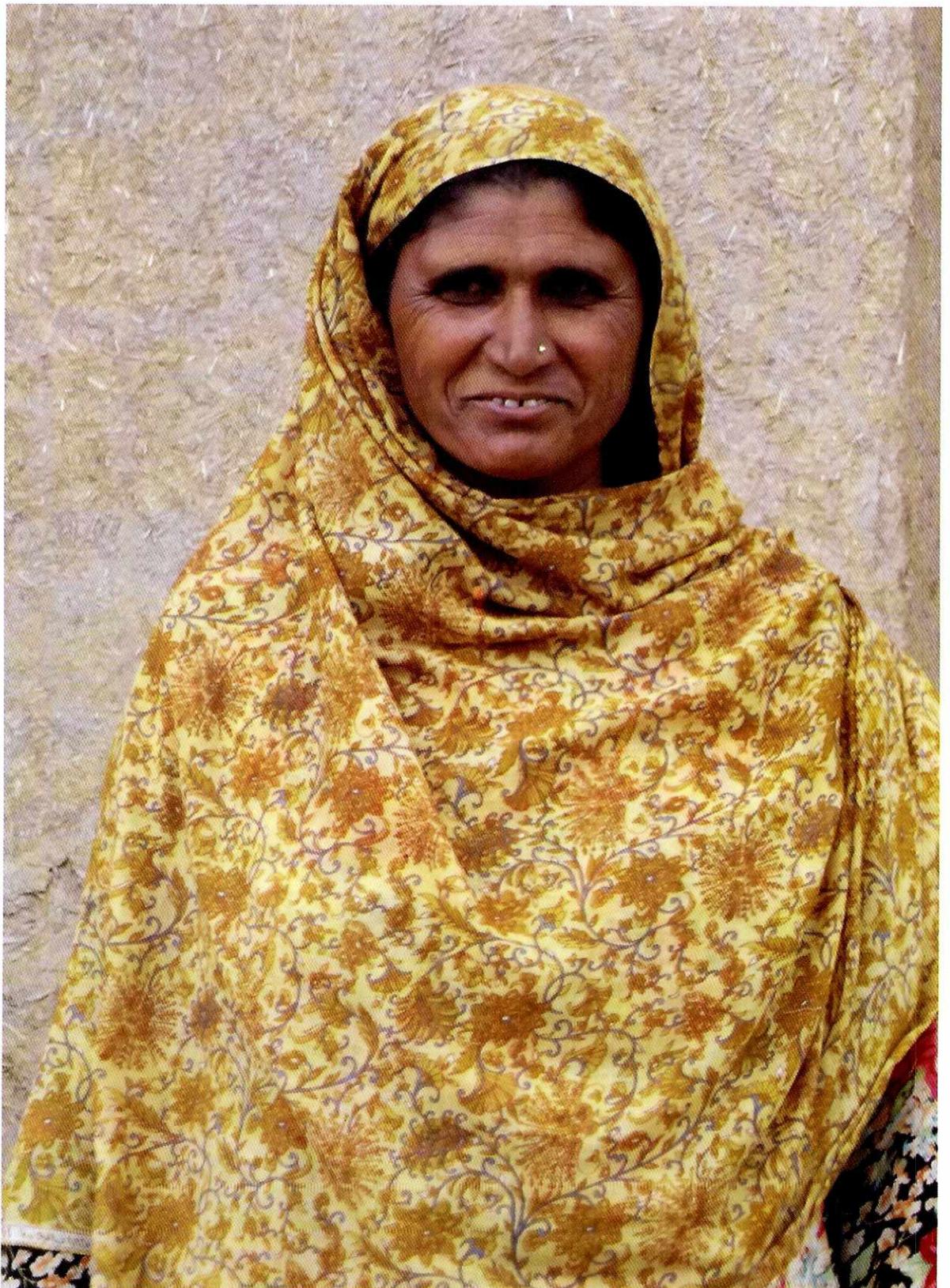
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AN EMERGING LEADER: LAL BIBI

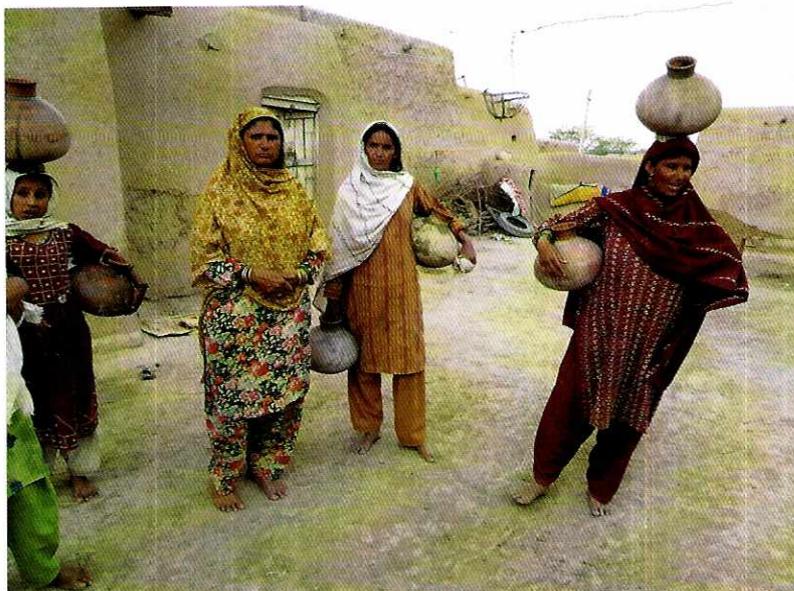
Rania Tamkeen Zaidi



Village Gara Akhuzada is a remote area of Union Council Musazai. The population consists of approximately 3500 members and 400 families. All of the village inhabitants depend on the grazing of cows and goats/cattle and agriculture. The community is mostly farmers associated with ploughing the land and/or labourers and tenants.

Lal bibi is a very courageous lady who belongs to village Akhuzada. The villagers admire the efforts and hard work of Lal bibi for the development of the village and especially the women. She has been an active participant in all the developmental activities of Intercooperation in the village especially the activities related to women development.

Lal bibi and the SPO team with the support of Intercooperation have jointly developed the livelihoods of the community. She actively participated and helped in identification of the poorest women for the distribution of goats and poultry to the women of the area through a revolving mechanism. The activity has generated huge benefits for the community women. The women then gave eggs and goat kid to other poor women of the area free of cost. In this way IC gave benefit to the poor women inhabitants. Furthermore the SPO team planted fruit trees and fodder to overcome the fodder shortage for livestock. Seeing this, other women also planted fruits and cultivated vegetables for themselves.



The women of the area wondered why they shouldn't involve other women as well and hence made a women organization. Lal bibi gathered all the women and together the name "Abadi women Organization" was generated for the WO. The aim of the organization is to promote the development of their area. Right from the start, the women have taken great interest in their organization for which they elected a President, vice president, General Secretary and press secretary. The first thing Lal bibi did as president was to decide that for the sustainability of the organization and initial funding every woman should deposit Rs.50 with the treasure. Every woman accepted this decision and regularly deposited Rs.50/-. It was also decided that the collected amount would help a woman extend her business.

Abadi women organization hence collected Rs.1600. Says one member "I have been asked to do business on the same amount. So I decided to plant fruit trees and fodder, which I purchased from DI Khan. Through the second installment I have purchased wheat bags for a poor lady. Another woman's son was suffering from fever and our organization purchased medicine for him. I have also purchased an electronic fan for a poor lady who did not have any. Our WO meets every month to discuss matters regarding development mostly of women". Lal bibi told us that the organization is keen on registering itself with the Social Welfare Department. So that funds are received from the Government and work may be carried out through those funds. Through such projects, Lal bibi as well as many other women have gained self confidence. They are able to earn money and run their houses. Lal bibi has and still is performing a community leader role for the area/community. This is the first step for Lal bibi and the first drop of rain of blessings for the community women and ultimately the village.

Key facts:

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SAD NALEEN IRRIGATION SCHEME

Abid Latif and Fahim Iqbal



Dera Ismial Khan is the southern most district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, the capital being the town of Dera Ismial Khan. It is bounded on the east by Bakhar and Mianwali districts of the Punjab province, to the southwest by South Waziristan and Zhob districts of Balochistan, to northwest by Lakki Marwat and Tank districts.

Being an agriculture based district, DI Khan is agro-ecologically divided into four zones; canal irrigated, flood irrigation (Rudh Kohi), rain-fed and katcha (River belt). Total land is 732,481 hectare in which 731,922 hectare is cultivable through different sources of territory. The major crops grown in the district are cotton, maize, rice, sugar cane, gram, wheat, barley, rape seed and mustard. Agriculture is the major economic activity and also the main source of earning for the locals. DI Khan is also known for its horticultural crops as they serve as a major source of earning and livelihood for many communities. Among horticultural crops dates are the most significant bringing in higher earnings.

VEER development organisation with support from Intercooperation is currently implementing Water for Livelihood project in the Rudh Kohi area of DI Khan. The project mainly focuses on Daraban and Sheikh Haider zam that are arid and receive torrents from adjacent hills (Koh-e-Suleman range). Large and major torrents in DI Khan are called 'zams'. Sad (Earthen diversion structure) zams include Tank, Gomal, Choudhwan, Daraban and Sheikh Haider. Rudh Kohi system is mainly practiced in DI Khan through 3 zams and twenty nullahs or Rudhs. zams are perennial streams in a limited context as they provide 'Kalapani' (Perennial water), while nullahs receive water only during the flood season.

The main objectives of the project are to work on drinking water, natural resource management, improving livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction measures, water rights and rehabilitation of sad and water channels for proper utilization and diversion of flood water.

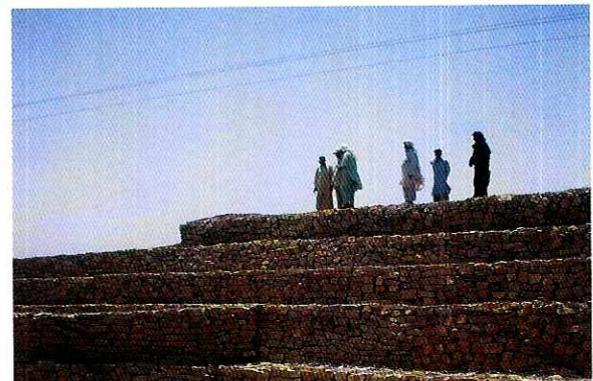
Sad Naleen is a permanent bund as per Rudh Kohi Kulyat and Riwayat -e- Abpashi; it not only diverts flood water to agricultural fields but also diverts and distributes flood water into other irrigation channels; situated at mid-stream of Daraban zam at village Gandhi Esab. It is a

central point to Rudh-Kohi system and it irrigates almost all agricultural lands of more than 16 villages benefitting more than 1600 households of an area of 03 mouzas (Gandi Esb , Gara Mian Fathe and Gandi Umer Khan). Sad Naleen diverts flood water into the command area and fields, as well as flood water into sub channels and Pals (the embankments that flank the main dam) to further irrigate agricultural lands of 03 mouzas as per revenue records. It also channelizes flood water to different bando basti gatties (Legal/recognized diversion structure in Kulyat and Riwayat) in this irrigation system. A large number of agricultural lands are dependent on this permanent bund, which has been badly damaged during the floods of 2010, gullies are visible at many places and the flood water has made a deep ravine apart from flowing in the allocated channel, severe land degradation in the shape of gullies were also highly visible.



The flood of 2010 made historical damages and destruction in the entire region of Daraban zam catchment area; almost all of the irrigation system was washed out and destroyed many permanent and other bando basti gatties were damaged with the system not performing its function since 2010. Sad Naleen is situated in the heart of Daraban zam. Total command area under Sad Naleen in 16 villages is 310,000 kanals (41374 acres). Its instant rehabilitation was one of the dire needs of all concerned villages whose entire livelihoods were dependent upon irrigation of Sad Naleen. The community desperately wanted to rehabilitate it as soon as possible before the coming year's monsoon so that their livelihoods could be restored after the bloody shocks of 2010.

Water User Groups (WUGs) of concerned villages conducted a series of meetings and dialogues to develop joint consensus to further discuss it with VEER and W4L staff for further necessary action to rehabilitate it on priority basis keeping in view the consent of all benefitting villages.



VEER received resolutions from many Water User Groups (WUGs) for Sad Naleen rehabilitation. All those involved took this serious issue on priority basis and developed a proposed scheme social feasibility with the active involvement of the local community. Keeping in view the importance and cost benefit analysis of the proposed scheme, the W4L project approved its rehabilitation and before initiation a technical survey has been conducted by respective Technical Service Provider Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), on the basis of which a survey and layout were designed. After the survey it was decided to strengthen embankments of bunds, increase height of bund to mitigate risk of flood water spilling and for the safe passage of the excess water through the structure a spillway was also suggested to reduce pressure on earthen embankments during heavy rains and floods; excess water will be allowed to escape through the spillway having 1000 cusecs capacity and safely disposed off flood water without damaging the land, crops and proposed structure. Besides these benefits the proposed scheme addressed other many issues such as improvement in conveyance efficiency of the system, ensuring equitable distribution of water as per water rights among the 16 villages in the down-stream area, safely remove the excess (unwanted) water from the system to keep it intact, simultaneous irrigation to upstream and downstream in case of heavy but controlled flood, waste water of spillway will additionally irrigate 25-30 thousand Kanal area , similarly also reducing the risk of damages in main Gandi Umer Khan road which is always prone to disaster in flood.

For proper execution and implementation, a joint consensus was built at all villages' level to properly contribute both financially and physically (cash and coins) in the implementation process so that the scheme will be completed well before time with all its specifications and standards.

After days and nights worth of hard work of all stakeholders, Sad Naleen was successfully completed in 2011 with its full dimensions and design. After completion it provided fruitful results and made an impact in the command area by properly diverting flood water to agricultural lands and mitigating the risk of major disaster in area. Recent seasonal floods in 2012 have considerably irrigated all 16 villages with a total of 20150 acres in 11 villages irrigated due to the changes made. In fact some targeted villages Gara Sheikh, Gara Watoo, Gara Mir Alam and Kikri are such that the agricultural lands have been irrigated after 10-15 years. Time shall show these benefits increasing and flourishing lives of the locals.

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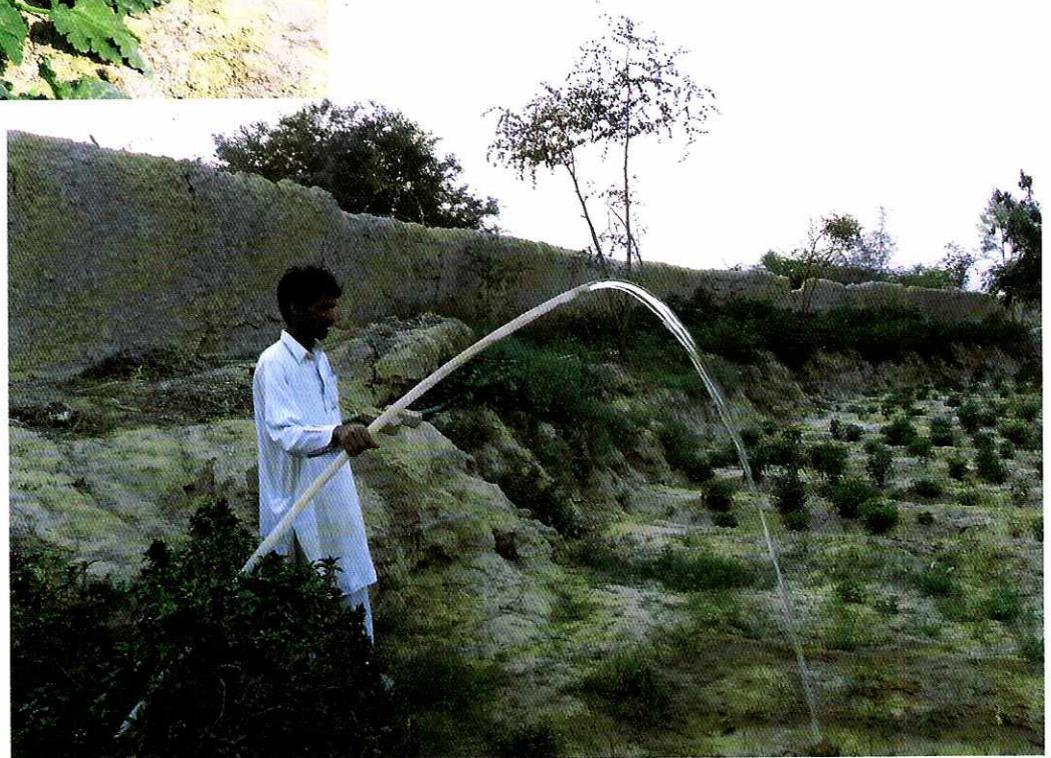
VEGETABLES IN SPATE AREA

Kifayat Ullah Khan



Union council Chodwan also known as Chak Babarr, is situated towards the West of District DI Khan at a distance of 75km. The main source of income is agriculture. The agriculture lands are irrigated with rain or flood water for cereal crops. The growing of vegetables was never given a thought due to lack of water resources in the area and the lack of skills on the part of the farmers. Daraban has been the main vegetable market for the area where the vegetables arrive from DI Khan market. The transportation costs add to the already high prices of the vegetables thus making it impossible for the community of Daraban and Chodwan to purchase vegetables.

During the initial assessment of the area, the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush (LPH) found the dire need of growing vegetables in the area. The Livelihoods Programme Hindukush introduced and established kitchen gardening which gave fruitful results to the families who were the growers of Kitchen Gardens. With the passage of time LPH supported the community of village Gara Azzak by installing of a Hand pump for drinking water, and provided vegetable seed and technical support to the owner of the land. He irrigated the vegetable plot by the hand pump. The owner of the plot earned a handsome amount of income from the sale of vegetables. Later on he installed a pressure pump and started vegetables growing on large scale with the support of LPH. Similarly in other villages of Chodwan zam where water was available LPH established on/off season vegetables plots with progressive farmers. The bigger farmers of Chodwan also gained interest in vegetables growing. Due to the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush and SPO efforts the inhabitant of the area have fresh on/off season vegetables at a low cost on their door step and on the other hand a better source of income for growers has been generated. The farmers of the Chodwan zam are now able to supply vegetables to Daraban and DI Khan market.



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A STEP FROM NEED-BASED DEVELOPMENT TO HARNESSING LOCAL POTENTIAL

Kifayat Ullah Khan



Union council Chodwan is situated towards West of District DI Khan at a distance of 75km. With the 7217 HH the population is round about 65403. The area is rain fed and flood irrigated. The main source of income after agriculture is Livestock, which is the asset of the community. The main problem faced by the villagers was the mortality of livestock and seasonal disease. In Chodwan union council there is only one Livestock dispensary at a distance of 10 to 15km from each village.

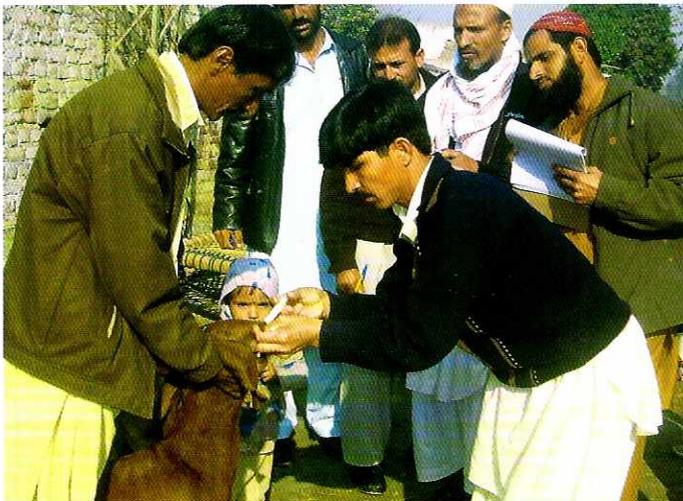
When the Livelihoods Programme Hindukush (LPH) started its activities in the area, the issue of livestock was identified in the initial assessment. The LPH team decided to train activist from community as Livestock Extension Workers (LEWs). SPF held meetings with vulnerable communities for the selection of LEWs from different villages. After final selection of LEWs, LPH conducted a 10 days training for LEWs and provided them with tool kits. Training was regarding livestock treatment and tool kits were an initial support to LEWs for establishment of their businesses.

Mr. Kalu Khan from Gara Matt and Mr. Inayat Ullah from village Kot Tagga got the training and started their services at their village level. LPH also introduces them with the Livestock and Dairy Development Department. Kalu Khan and Inayat Ullah started seasonal vaccination in LPH targeted villages under the supervision of L&DDD. By providing services in seasonal vaccination campaign LEWs visits different villages and introduce their selves and skills to the community, they treated different cases of livestock skillfully and efficiently and with fewer charges. Due to their good services and fewer cost most of the community members started calling them to their villages for seasonal vaccination and treatment of their livestock. In the vaccination campaign of January 2012 the LEWs earned a handsome amount of income. Each LEW earned up to Rs.9000 just in 10 days vaccination campaign. The details of expenses made during campaign are as under:

Total large and small animals vaccinated	5069
Total expense of Vaccine & Fuel	Rs. 5860
Total Income from vaccine	Rs. 23947
Total expense	Rs. 5860
Total Saving	Rs.18087

The training of LEWs has proved to be a very effective intervention of the LPH . The LEWs are locally available and meet the needs of the community and on the other hand provide services on nominal charges which are bearable by the community.

The inhabitants of the area are very pleased with the LEWs as they are available on a single phone call and they community doesn't have to wait or take their livestock to the livestock dispensary. Due to seasonal vaccination and timely treatment of livestock the mortality rate has reduced considerably.



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