

**OXFAM in Pakistan**

**Building Resilience Communities in Pakistan**

**District Badin Sindh**

**END-LINE EVALUATION REPORT**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

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# Acknowledgement

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# Acronymous

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CHS | Core Humanitarian Standards |
| CSGs | Community Service Groups |
| CSO | Civil Society Organization |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| FATA | Federally Administered Tribal Areas |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussion |
| KII | Key Informant Interview |
| PDMA | Provincial Disaster Management Authority |
| PESP | Punjab Education Sector Reform Programme |
| PSTs | Primary School Teachers |
| PWD | People with Disability |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| WHH | Welthungerhilfe |
| VDMP | Village Disaster Management Plan |
| DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| VDMCS | Village Disaster Management Committees |

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INTRODUCTION:

# Introduction:

Climatic change is big challenge in development and it has brought drought and floods in its wake, locust infestation, high population growth rate, un-/under-employment and income poverty, limited access to health and other services, and competition for limited natural resources between settled farmers and pastoralists. Most recently, since January 2020, the global pandemic of COVID-19 has affected the whole country, with more than a thousand deaths reported nation-wide, and an officially registered caseload of many more, with under-testing and -reporting likely concealing far higher numbers[[1]](#footnote-1).

The second category of disasters include undernutrition and poisoning of humans, livestock, water bodies and the environment in general, through over-use of synthetic agro-pesticides. over-exploitative farming practices in general have led to global deterioration of soils, through erosion, compaction, acidification, contamination, sealing, salinization, waterlogging, nutrient imbalance (both deficiency and excess), and loss of soil biodiversity and soil organic carbon . Loss of organic matter content is of particular concern for food security, as cereal crop yields usually increase linearly with SOC levels; there is need also to increase C:N ratios, the latter ratio having a vital nutrient recycling role for recurrent cropping and reducing the propensity for N leaching from the soil.

Existing vulnerabilities of communities, and particularly women within them, are made worse by the climate change which has impacted Sindh over the last 40 years, evidenced in drought and flood events, and sea level rise with salinization of the water table and land.[[2]](#footnote-2) The reality of climate change increases the challenge of making agriculture better able to sustain current and future food and livelihood needs of the country. Climate change enhances the risks and acts as a threat multiplier, particularly with regard to availability of water and changes in temperature and COVID-19 exacerbates the vulnerabilities related to climate change.

## Oxfam in Pakistan:

Oxfam has been working in Pakistan since 1973 to ensure that all its people – especially women and girls – are able to exercise their rights and have access to basic services and economic resources. They work with local groups, media, academia, private sector, think tanks and the government, to improve livelihoods, provide humanitarian aid, create safer communities, and promote economic and gender justice. Oxfam support local partners and work with government authorities to improve the livelihoods of those living in poverty and provide humanitarian assistance to those affected by disasters and conflict.

## DFAT

DFAT is providing emergency assistance to respond to immediate COVID-19 health security and other climate-oriented challenges. It has an outreach across the county with prime focus on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and marginalized communities of Sindh. Longer-term humanitarian assistance is improving hygiene, maternal and reproductive health outcomes, and broader health system preparedness. We will continue to support programs that improve critical health services such as sustainable water and sanitation. The Aid will focus on providing humanitarian relief, addressing gender inequality and improving governance to support long-term stability in the region—which is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and external geopolitical factors. Australia’s Regional Humanitarian Strategy for the protracted humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and Pakistan directs funding to displaced people and host communities on both sides of the border. Australia’s assistance includes support for vulnerable refugee communities to limit the spread of COVID-19 and provides essential services such as for maternal health. In Pakistan we will concentrate on Balochistan and on the fragile former tribal areas in KP[[3]](#footnote-3).

PROJECT BRIEF INTRODUCTION

# Project Brief Introduction:

Building Resilient Communities in Badin, Pakistan (BRCP) is a project funded by Oxfam Australia with the support of DFAT and implemented by project partner HANDS in 60 villages of Three UCs in Badin. The project aimed to improve the resilience of rural communities and government authorities in Badin to build understanding, knowledge and skills to prepare for, adapt to and mitigate climate and disaster risks.

* To cope with these shocks and stresses, famers and their families often resort to taking children out of school (especially girls) taking loans or credit from landlords; forgoing necessary health care due to the costs associated with treatment, transport and potential missed work days; and migration to urban centers for economic opportunities, which increases the care burden on women and risks of gender based violence (GBV).,

The BRCP project focused on adopting Climate-Smart Agricultural techniques, diversified livelihoods, and applied an appropriately designed weather tracking app and early warning systems. The project directly worked with the communities and government to support local disaster risk management plans to reduce poverty and inequality through resource allocation for gender and disability inclusive disaster risk reduction. The project specifically targeted women, young people, and people with disabilities who are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of disasters and climate change in Badin. The project adopted a strong focus on gender equality to ensure women’s opportunities for full participation and empowerment through the project.

The Building Resilient Communities in Pakistan (BRCP) project achieved following outcomes between 2018-2022.

**Outcome 1:** Communities in Badin will have improved resilience to cope with shocks and stressors relating to floods and drought.

**Outcome 2:** Sindh Provincial and Badin district government have improved capacity, commitment and accountability towards governance for resilient development. ​

## Project Emphasis:

The Building Resilient Communities in Pakistan Project has focused on adopting climate-smart agricultural techniques, diversifying livelihoods, and applying an appropriately designed risk transfer. The project worked with the communities and government to support local development plans to reduce poverty.

The project specifically targeted women, young people, and people with disabilities who are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of disasters and climate change in Badin. The project adopts a strong focus on gender equality to ensure women’s opportunities for full participation and empowerment through the project. The objectives of the study are given below:

## Project Geographical Coverage:

Project was implemented by project partner HANDS/LHDP in 60 villages of Three UCs in district Badin. List of villages is given below in Table No 1.

**Table 1: Shows the list of villages and UC as the geographical coverage**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Building Resilient Communities in Pakistan (BRCP)** | | |
| **Supported by Oxfam in Pakistan being implemented by HANDS in District Badin** | | |
| **S. No.** | **Union Council** | **Name of village** |
| 1 | Abdullah Shah | Abdul Latif Khaskheli |
| 2 | Abdullah Shah | Ahmed Mallah |
| 3 | Abdullah Shah | Ali Bux Panhwar |
| 4 | Abdullah Shah | Ali Muhammad Mallah |
| 5 | Abdullah Shah | Allah Jurio mallah |
| 6 | Abdullah Shah | Ameer Mallah |
| 7 | Abdullah Shah | Bachal Mallah |
| 8 | Abdullah Shah | Eidoo Jamali |
| 9 | Abdullah Shah | Ghulam Ali Jamali |
| 10 | Abdullah Shah | Ghulam Muhammad Mallah |
| 11 | Abdullah Shah | Haji Turab Notkani |
| 12 | Abdullah Shah | Ibrahim Ali Ghulam Mallah |
| 13 | Abdullah Shah | Jaan Muhammad Panhwar |
| 14 | Abdullah Shah | Jumon Ghangharo |
| 15 | Abdullah Shah | Kando Chandio |
| 16 | Abdullah Shah | Kareem Bux Jamali |
| 17 | Abdullah Shah | Khamiso Bheel |
| 18 | Abdullah Shah | Lakha Dino Lund |
| 19 | Abdullah Shah | Mehmood Mallah |
| 20 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Hassan Kalhoro |
| 21 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Ibraheem mallah |
| 22 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Nawaz Panhwar |
| 23 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Ramzan Mallah |
| 24 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Soomar jamali |
| 25 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Uris Panhwar |
| 26 | Abdullah Shah | Muhammad Yousif Jamali |
| 27 | Abdullah Shah | Obhayo Panhwar |
| 28 | Abdullah Shah | Peroz jamali |
| 29 | Abdullah Shah | Wikiyo jamali |
| 30 | Abdullah Shah | Yaqoob Jamali |
| 31 | Nindo | Allah Bachayo jamali |
| 32 | Nindo | Allah Dino Bhurgari |
| 33 | Nindo | Auko Kolhi |
| 34 | Nindo | Eidoo Kottar |
| 35 | Nindo | Gaju Kolhi |
| 36 | Nindo | Haji Allah Dino Mehranpoto |
| 37 | Nindo | Haji Khan Jamali |
| 38 | Nindo | Jiyand Khan Chhalgri |
| 39 | Nindo | Khamiso khokhar |
| 40 | Nindo | Khamiso Mallah |
| 41 | Nindo | Moosa Khaskeli |
| 42 | Nindo | Pehchano Kolhi |
| 43 | Nindo | Ramchand Kolhi |
| 44 | Nindo | Ramji Kolhi |
| 45 | Nindo | Sadique Mehranpoto |
| 46 | Nindo | Sajan kolhi |
| 47 | Nindo | Siddique Mehranpoto |
| 48 | Nindo | Turpio Khaskeli |
| 49 | Nindo | Umedo kolhi |
| 50 | Nindo | Yaar Muhammad bhurgari |
| 51 | Shaheed Rani | Allah Dino Bajeer |
| 52 | Shaheed Rani | Baalo Khor |
| 53 | Shaheed Rani | Gul Muhammad Thebo |
| 54 | Shaheed Rani | Haji Khaskeli |
| 55 | Shaheed Rani | Haji Menh Wasayo Solangi |
| 56 | Shaheed Rani | Lalo Kolhi |
| 57 | Shaheed Rani | Muhammad Juman Mallah |
| 58 | Shaheed Rani | Muhammad Raheem Solangi |
| 59 | Shaheed Rani | Petho kolhi |
| 60 | Shaheed Rani | Wahid Dino Notiar |

## Project Beneficiaries

The local community in general and youth, (male & female) person with disabilities, agricultural community and minorities were the main stakeholder (beneficiaries) of the project in the mentioned UCs of District Badin.

END LINE EVALUATION

# End line Evaluation:

This study started in last week of January-22 to Feb-22. The objective of end-line study was to assess performance of the project in contributing towards its stated outcomes through learning and reflections by applying DAC criteria capture qualitative results. Under these specific objectives, study further responded to below learning questions by taking participatory approach engaging all partners, communities and stakeholders involved providing learning and reflection opportunities:

* To assess the resilience of rural communities in Badin (especially to recent disasters floods, COVID19, Heavy Monsoon, Drought and locust attacks).
* To evaluate understanding, knowledge and skills of rural communities in Badin to prepare for, adapt to and mitigate climate and disaster risks; how effectively was technology leveraged in DRR and how successful were the community structures in promoting resilience.
* To capture the key learnings and best practices within different components of projects; to evaluate project initiatives and components on set of questions following DAC criteria.
* To assess the level of awareness (e.g. receptiveness) of communities/ households currently adopting climate smart agriculture practices; how effective were the trainings and expert visits in promoting CSA;
* To assess the effectiveness of project interventions in promoting alternative livelihoods, access to market or livelihood opportunities for men, women, and PWDs; how effective were the trainings and follow ups.
* To assess the capacities of District & Provincial Govt. and resources allocation analysis for implementing District Disaster Management Plans (DDMP) District Badin and Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs)
* To assess the mechanisms and functionality of DRR Forums, resilience academy at district/provincial government in resilient development planning in district Badin.
* To assess the participation of rural communities especially women, youth and people with disability in DRR in District/provincial level committees.
* To assess the participation of rural communities especially women, youth and people with disability in DRR in District/provincial level committees.

## Methodology:

A holistic approach was adopted to carry out the assignment. Both primary as well as secondary data/information has been gathered from targeted areas. A two-pronged research study has been designed in order to cater to the research objectives and subsequent questions. Qualitative data collection, including FGDs, KIIs and case studies, has been done to answer the DAC criteria questions that fall under objective of study. The consultant ensured the information disaggregation in terms of age, gender, disability, ethnicity, and UCs. The methodology enabled the consultant to capture the voice of women and marginalized groups. All walk of life specially marginalized groups (ethnic minorities and persons with disabilities) were ensured to share their experience in this study. More than 50 percent of the respondents were women. Consultant engaged key influential from targeted communities such as Women leaders, Agricultural workers, Daily wage laborer, Persons with disabilities, Youth groups, Ethnic Minorities. At district level, local government and relevant department authorities will be part of activities.

The team mainly adopted qualitative approach to collect primary data in addition to relying on existing (secondary) data. To triangulate, the data were collected through variety of sources including some external sources in consultation with the client. The following scheme has been followed in the study period:

## Target Respondents:

The respondents for both the quantitative and qualitative tools have been identified keeping in view the study objectives. The survey respondents include community members i.e. agriculture workers, women leaders, youth, minorities and persons with disabilities that are direct beneficiaries of the project as the aim of the survey is to assess the level of resilience of the community and establish a retrospective baseline in the selected program villages. The same set of respondents were reached for FGDs and KIIs for insights and detailed information against the established and identified DAC criterion.

KIIs with IP, district authorities, NGO, CBOs and provincial authority helped us to build the context for project interventions and see whether interests of the community were aligned in the implementation process. Separate tools have been developed for community members and other stakeholders to gauge project performance on the criteria mentioned above.

## Sampling Matrix:

For the purpose of qualitative primary data collection, the sample was derived in line with beneficiary numbers of project. As specified in the ToRs, only qualitative data needed to be collected using a variety of methods. The sampling for qualitative research was purposive. Based on the geographical reach of both objectives i.e., 3 UC from target district, the respondents were selected from all UCs. Below table summarizes the type of respondents and data collection tools. Following the sampling matrix total 21 FGDs and 15 KIIs were conducted,

## Instrument Design:

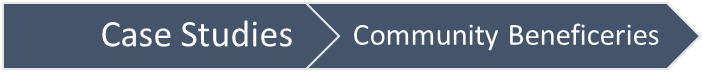
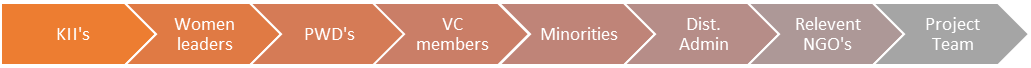
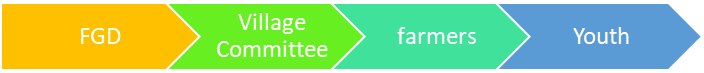
Separate tools for each respondent group for this study objectives were developed. Tools encompassed the scope of the DAC criterion questions. The tools included questions regarding impact of different project activities on the lives of beneficiaries at an individual and collective level. Separate tools for each strata of the respondent(s) were also developed.

Along with each FGD and KII tool, a respective guideline to administer the tool was included for the field enumerator. Draft tools: guidelines for surveys, FGDs and KIIs for relevant project themes and departments were developed. They have focused on the objectives of the study as indicated in the research questions to derive accurate information.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Respondent Groups** | **FGDs** | **KIIs** | **Learning story/ human interest story/ Case study** |
| Communities (committees) | 3 per UC  3\*3 = 9  Including women leaders and monitories, PWDs etc.) | 4 | 2 |
| Livelihood /agri-communities | 2 per UC  2\*3 =6 |  | 2 |
| Youth groups/DRMC | 2 per UC 2\*3 =6 |  |  |
| OXFAM and partner staff |  | 02 |  |
| Women leaders |  | 02 |  |
| Persons with disabilities |  | 01 |  |
| Relevant local NGOs |  | 01 |  |
| District Authorities (agriculture, Resilience academy) |  | 04 | 1 |
| PDMA & DDMA |  | 01 |  |
| **Total** | **30** | **15** | **5** |

***Table 2: The table shows the types of respondents and nature of activity carried out during the study.***

***Figure 1: Shows the Instrumental Design***



## Evaluation Questions

**Table 3. Shows the Evaluation Questions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Evaluation Criterion/Questions | Literature  Review | FGDs | KIIs |
| **Design** | | | |
| Is the design the most appropriate to meet the needs and context identified? | X | x | x |
| **Relevance** |  |  |  |
| To what extent were the outputs and outcomes of the intervention achieved and what were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes? |  | x | x |
| Are the alternate livelihood options viable for women, men and persons with disability? To what extent these are adding value in resilience building? | X | x | x |
| To what extent modern climate smart practices aligned to contextual need? Are these being replicated, cost effective and friendly to use? How satisfied communities are with it? | X | x | x |
| To what extent participation of vulnerable groups (women, PWDs and minorities) in VDMCs and UDMCs supporting the community DRR needs? How, effective were the social structures in combating recent disasters (floods, locust attacks, and COVID19)? |  | x | x |
| **Efficiency** | | | |
| How effective early warning system? | X | x | x |
| Are communities are improving or not agri-practices by using ari advisory app? What is the level of access of app? Who is able to access (gender, disability, minorities), How, efficient is it in resolving issues? How effective are the early warning systems? |  | x | x |
| How is the Project contributing to the resilience of the communities in the face of  disasters (floods, locust, and COVID19) |  | x | x |
| To what extent, For Power and Agency. Which of the following are changed positive or negative?   1. Self- efficacy, ability to make decisions 2. Control of household resources 3. Women’s access to information and technology 4. Women’s participation in community groups 5. Women’s involvement in community decision-making. 6. Women have leadership roles in the community? |  | x | x |
| **Partnerships and Cooperation** | | | |
| To what extent have partnerships been sought and established and synergies been created in the delivery of assistance? How effective were DRR coordination Meetings (District and Sindh Chapters)? | X |  | x |
| **Effectiveness** | | | |
| How effective is village level leadership? Is there a positive impact on resilience of communities? |  | x | x |
| Are the planned objectives and outcomes in the project document achieved? |  | x | x |
| **Impact** | | | |
| What are the results achieved beyond the log-frame? |  | x | x |
| **Sustainability** | | | |
| How project strengthen and sustain its impact during remaining period? |  | x | x |

All the tools were developed keeping in consideration the above-mentioned criterion, research questions and the source(s) of information. The inquiry matrix was updated during inception after an initial and more comprehensive review of the project details and documents.

## Piloting/pre-testing of the tools:

After seeking approval of instruments from Oxfam, a pilot/pretesting of instrument was conducted of the instruments developed. The pilot research was conducted with the following objectives.

**Figure 2: Piloting of Instruments**

## Data Collection

All the data has been collected as per the methodology agreed with the client during inception period and has been mentioned in the detailed methodology section of the report. A holistic approach was adopted started from conducting a meeting with the client followed by desk review and conducting detailed FGDs, KIIs with different stakeholders. A qualitative and quantitative type of data were collected for the learning and reflection component and Resilience Radar respectively.

### Desk Review of the Study:

Document were reviewed for desk study as source of secondary source of information. Documents such as project proposals, progress reports, survey reports, previous evaluation reports, research, outputs of the interventions (such as publications, communication materials, etc.), results of any internal planning process and relevant materials from secondary sources will be undertaken. The main secondary data in focus will be:

* Projects proposal focusing on outcome and output level indicators.
* Result Based Framework
* Monitoring and evaluation plan; including base line surveys
* Training material
* Capacity building material
* Project monitoring data and progress reports
* Previous evaluation report
* Quarterly/annual progress reports
* Case studies etc.

### Primary Data collection:

* The primary data has been collected using the standard tools used for the baseline and midline, as agreed with the client during inception period.
* The specialized tools targeting different stakeholder were used. For instance, FGD for the agricultural community was entirely different from the tool developed for the Youth and so as for the partner organization and Oxfam.

### Focus Group Discussion:

A total of 30 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) have been conducted to collect information around the research questions for this assignment. As the sampling matrix defines, different community groups were identified and reached for these discussions and data collection. A combination of open-ended probe questions were included in the FGD guidelines. maximum of 12 to 15 participants were included in each 45-60 minutes long FGD. Respect for participants, their social setting and background were taken into account at all times during data collection. Thus, a female consultants/enumerators conducted FGDs with female participants. The proceedings of each FGD were tape recorded and later transcribed verbatim after which data reduction-a useful technique to discard irrelevant information/data-were used. The data was coded and prevalent themes were recorded. Data was presented in form of percentages, where possible, of respondents having the same viewpoint.

**Figure 3: Shows the tool layout for the Community**

### Key Informant Interviews

A total of 15 KII were conducted with both community level respondents and key stakeholders including provincial and district authorities, Oxfam project teams, representatives of NGOs as well as beneficiaries. The KIIs held with community level respondents were having the similar template as mentioned in Figure. A list of open-ended questions were included in forty-five minutes long semi-structured key informant interviews. Each question followed by respective relevant probes where required. The probe questions helped the enumerator to gather all the required information in a more coherent and uniform manner. The interviews were also tape/recorded only if the interviewees have given permission and later transcribed verbatim or else the note takers will record the answers. All the interviews were carried out in the local language (Sindhi) to make the responded more convenient and get maximum information and insights.

Data for the exercise were gathered during KIIs and FGDs with beneficiaries and Oxfam project staff. This phase especially informed through in-depth interviews with the key project staff.

**Table 4: Table shows the no and type of tool used during the study**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S/No.** | **Tool** | **Total** | **Union Council** | | |
| **Abdullah Shah** | **Nindo** | **Shaheed Rani** |
| 1 | FGD-Agricultural Community | 06 | 02 | 02 | 02 |
| 2 | FGD Youth Group | 06 | 02 | 02 | 02 |
| 3 | Key Information Interviews | 04 | 02 | 01 | 01 |
| 4 | KII with Oxfam & Partner | 02 | - | - | - |
| 5 | KII Women Leader | 01 | 01 | - | 01 |
| 6 | KII PWD | 01 | - | - | 01 |
| 7 | KII Local NGO | 01 | - | - | - |
| 8 | KII With Government | 04 | - | - | - |

### Case studies/Human Interest Stories

For focusing on in- depth data collection and analysis, were collected from project area. In the present context, human interest stories documented the experiences of individuals who were targeted by the Community Resilience Project. Such stories personalized the successes and challenges and emphasize the human aspect of the interventions. Two types of human-interest stories were collected: the success story and the learning story. First the success story described what, when, why, where, and how a project has had a positive impact on an individual’s life. Focuses on a project’s positive impact on an individual’s life in his or her own words. 2nd Learning Story focused on an individual’s response to challenges arised out of a project, how these challenges were addressed, and what was learned from the experience. Focuses on the lessons learned by an individual in the context of positive or negative project experiences.

The team was using this method to obtain a complete picture of the situation; a facet; or the experience of a person both female and male as well as children under the project themes. The KIIs and FGDs were used as a source for identifying change stories. these stories addressed the “five W’s and the H”—who, what, where, when, why, and how. These questions were ideally answered in the opening paragraph of the story, also known as the lead. Once the “who, what, when, where why and how” are included in the introduction, the stories focused on the specific problem or challenges confronted by the individual, and the concrete ways in which the project helped the individual and his or her family to overcome or address these challenges.

Following the guidelines laid out by the American Red Cross, CRS and USAID, following were included in the stories:

* Five W’s and the H
* Specific condition or characteristics of the individual prior to participating in the project
* How, why, and when the individual decided to participate in the project
* Specific project activity(i.e.,) in which the individual participated
* Specific positive project impact on the individual’s life or challenge and lesson learned from the project
* General project information.

## Ethical Guidelines

Whole data collection assignment was based on the ethical principles of respect, beneficence and justice. To this end IRB approval was sought for data collection tools. Information gained was on the voluntary consent of the participants. This implied that participant had the relevant information about what the assignment is, be free to choose whether or not to participate and give their written or verbal consent. Participants were asked if they can be quoted in the case studies/success stories and if their photograph can be used. Questions asked to the participants were respectful and phrased in culturally appropriate language. Data collection was conducted in places that are socially comfortable for female participants, and where they are able to speak freely.

The study design was organized in a manner that conforms to and respects the rights and welfare of the public involved. The participants’ anonymity and confidentiality were ensured whereas; visual data was protected and used for agreed upon purpose only.

## Data Analysis and Report Development:

In order to serve the purpose of the assignment i.e., evaluation of the interventions implemented in target UCs and then a comparative assessment with baseline report, DAC criterion for evaluation was used for the project Evaluation was conducted based on the following framework by following guiding learning questions.

To conduct the evaluation according to the above framework, desk review and data were conducted and collected, respectively, according to the following line of inquiries.

An important tool used for analysis was the Progress towards result matrix (Achievement of outcomes against End-of-Project Targets). The evaluation team provided ratings on the project progress towards each evaluation criteria. The assessment of progress was based on secondary data provided in the reports, supplemented by data collected and interviews with the staff and stakeholders. To do this analysis, the evaluation team had populated the Table below to summarize the progress. The team used the following table which has been placed in annex of the evaluation report.

This information and analysis, coupled with that from secondary research phase, were consolidated in a draft report to give a detailed assessment of the project. In view of the summary of important lessons learned and good practices, elaboration of recommendations; regarding potential follow-up projects were given.

The results, along with the narration, were presented in the form of tables/graphs/ infographics for ease of understanding. The narration part was done through analytical interpretation. Recommendations were drawn based on insights and dilemmas. The recommendations helped in the effective implementation of the project and future designing of the projects of such nature.

## Triangulation/Validation of data

During this stage secondary data was reviewed by the researchers. The researcher(s) reviewed reports, monitoring data, and any other material on file to identify outcomes and the activities used to achieve them. The findings and details i.e., outcomes achieved, projects’ contribution and its significance for the cause and beneficiaries were noted; this helped in verifying and validation of project progress and monitoring data and reports gathered throughout project life. Incase secondary data provided by the project does not inform or provide with such information, the gaps with recommendations for improvement were highlighted. At this stage, outcomes were drafted in the light of the findings highlighting project’s contribution in bringing about the result/ change in the context.

**Figure 5: Data Triangulation**

RESEARCH FINDINGS & ANALYSIS

# Research Findings and Analysis:

After carrying out detail field survey and discussion with the communities and other key stakeholders the following key findings were surfaced, based on the evaluation framework.

## Design & Relevance:

**Is the design the most appropriate to meet the needs and context identified?**

Keeping in mind the project implementation and community response after the detailed discussions, it was noted that majority of the local community members were of the view that we are highly exposed to the climate impacts in the form of frequent floods and sometime drought. Heavy rains and locust in last five years not only damaged the agriculture and livestock but had a worst effect on population of district Badin. Vulnerable group specially children, women and elderly persons were badly affected. Overall population of area were facing extreme climate induced stressors and shocks. These are directly affecting their livelihood and entire socio-economic condition of the area. As far as the project needs is concern yes, it was the need to in terms of brining awareness, building capacities, improving service deliveries by Govt. institution and developing resilience plans toward the natural disasters.

Owing to the prevailing socio-economic condition of the targeted communities, they were of the view that providing alternative source of livelihoods, developing early warning mechanism, inclusion of women, engagement of academia and Govt. departments and imparting adaptive & transformative skills could be the component which might have contributed much toward the socio-economic prosperity of the area.

*This project is aligned with needs of our community, with the support of livelihood, our household income is increased. We can take good meal and our children health is improved. We have village development committee in village to discuss our issues and to reach with Govt. institutions.*

*(KII Agriculture worker – UC Shaheed Rani)*

The data gathered around design aspect of evaluation identified the following needs of the community that are been adequately addressed by project design and interventions:

* **Capacity of the Community:**

During the study, we came to know that community capacity in terms of prevailing natural hazards, their mitigation measures and making regular planning for their protection has been enhanced. As per our findings, Project has significantly contributed toward capacity enhancement. Communities are organized and capacitated structures of VDMCs, UDMCs, DRR forums Furthermore, they meet regularly, understand the formation of the community institutions, how the roles and responsibilities to be shared and above all, meeting with the government institution on regular basis was one amongst the key finding. Moreover, prior to project implementation, there was no specific planning mechanism available particularly at village level. Owing to missing early warning system people used to face challenges during natural hazards and disaster. Vulnerable groups used to suffer most at hands of disasters. Various segments of community including youth, women and elders including agriculture labor and workers all used to be on their own owing to the absence of community led structures. The social isolation and lack of communal platforms led to minimal communication, and information sharing with each other. This issue further aggravated the challenges faced during hazards and other climate change issues. But now they have established early warning systems and they are linked with Bakhabar Kissan app where youth members inform them about weather situations on daily basis.

*I used to rely on FM news for my crops but I do not have updates on daily basis. Bakhabr app made me able to connect with updates and we receive these in seconds. Thanks for this facility it is contributing in our crops management. Our lives are changed with instant news and information. (KII Agriculture worker – UC Nindo)*

* **Constraints in Agricultural practices:**

Primarily, agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the entire target population. A major chunk of the income comes from this sector however, due to certain issues like frequent natural disaster both flood and drought are consistently threatening their mainstay. Likewise, lack of availability of the adequate water resources for the irrigation further deteriorates the situation. Upon inquiring every individual from the agricultural community, he/she were of the view that our basic priority is the provision of the surface water for the farming activities. since we do not have any such advance system, therefore we cannot get the required amount of yield to get enough income. As a result, we usually depend upon the debt/loan either form the family, or other external source and we use to return it back within 1 year period.

* **Lack of adequate resources:**

The local are somehow familiar with the routine agricultural practices, however, lack of adequate financial resources and familiarity with technologically advanced measures are still a challenge being faced by the same community. Their knowledge is insufficient regarding application of water, amount of water required, correct use and frequency of pesticides. However, lack of advance irrigation system is a big challenge to be tackle with the limited resources.

As per our findings, Partner organization (HANDS) conducted training on the Alternative livelihood, Climate smart practices and Community Based disaster risk Management. AL and CSA trainings were mainly focused on increasing livelihood opportunities for a vulnerable household. While for DRR component, it was separate and unique experience to capacitate communities on DRR to reduce their risks of stressors and shock. These CBDRM trainings capacitated them to developed disaster risk plan at village, UC and district level.

It is also pertinent to be mentioned here, that initially, the local were not well informed about their prevailing hazards, and several times due to lack of understanding and knowledge their standing crops got damaged due to heavy rain/flood. however, now they are comparatively well informed and connected with the concern local administration. They get prior information about the weather and other hazard forecast and deal with them accordingly. So what happened is that, that the severity of the risk associated with flood or drought hazard are somehow reduced.

* **Climatic Vulnerability of the Area:**

It is evident from the fact that District Badin is one amongst the most vulnerable area of the Sindh toward climate change impacts. As the area has experience very frequent flood and drought. Which has drastically affected the entire socio-economic environment of the area. Losing the standing crop, loss of the livestock, damages to the houses, and lack of availability of the safe heaven has made the life miserable.

*Yes, we do cooperate with our men and support them during disasters, we always have been part of this but prior to this project we only were labor not human being, we were ignored in decision making, livelihood opportunities and we have no say in everyday life matters. Women leader of the community at UC-Shaheed Rani,*

* **Lack of alternative livelihood:**

The local communities are poor and agriculture is considered to be a key mean to livelihood to the larger fraction of population. The community lack resources and skill to opt alternate livelihood means thus they had to suffer and endure the issues originating from climate change, natural disasters, poor agricultural practices and lack of access to smart agricultural practices and techniques. The findings show that local communities neither have skills nor any resources to adopt alternate livelihoods. In such case women and persons with disability remained the ones who suffer most because of lack of opportunities

In every FGDs irrespective of the targeted audience, we had to discuss the available alternative livelihood option. However, it was quite surprising that local primarily focuses on the agricultural practices and some of the portion depends upon the livestock. Other than that no as such alternative source of the livelihood exists within the community.

*“In UC-Nindo, during an FGD with the Women community member, the community informed that, the project might be having some importance, however, we need to get our women and youth skilled full. It does not serve the purpose stand alone to know about disaster if we do not have enough to eat. Therefore, skilled trainings should be conducted where our women start practicing it. They further told that after working with the men for the whole day in the fields, we barely give have the strength to give proper time our kids and even our health. As a result, lack of having alternative livelihood is affecting the community health in general and women in particular”*

## Relevance of the Project

**To what extent were the outputs and outcomes of the intervention achieved and what were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the outcomes?**

The information gathered through findings reflect that all the project outputs are materialized. The data gathered from Badin showcase major achievement and successes of project including increased capacity of village level committees and communities regarding disaster risk reduction (DRR) through effective planning, availability and access to updated information related to agricultural techniques and climate smart practices, updated information on modern agricultural skills, access to information related to upcoming disaster through early warning system and enhanced skills of adopting alternative livelihood means especially by persons with disabilities and women. As per the findings from FGD respondents, the trainings are widely attended by both male and female community members; participation level in the trainings reflect the enhanced capacity and improved knowledge of community on agricultural practices and climate smart initiatives. Mostly the trainings are focused for youth groups and agriculture workers while a number of specific training areas were reserved for vulnerable groups including women and PWDs. The knowledge that is reflected from findings confirm that the capacity building activities have already started translating in their practices

* As far as the alternative livelihood components all beneficiaries have received support material and trainings. As per discussion with the community and the Partner organization, it was observed that assets like livestock, development of fishing ponds, enterprise development, and introduction of the climate smart agriculture demo plot and distributing seeds and equipment for kitchen gardening were distributed amongst the community. **Demonstration Plots:** These plots are introduced with low cost, solar powered, easy to repair and maintained, easy to operate with high efficiency of water usage in selected villages. with high efficiency irrigation system, these were equipped with sprinkle tubes. During the evaluation we found these demo plots delivering their best to all plots owners. Climate smart practices were introduced in agricultures and vegetable, cash crops, trees, fish nursery were all amazing to watch. These plots are adding great value in the life of beneficiary families. Each plot has increased income of family from 40,000/Quarter. Their children and women have enough food to eat and children are going to school now. These plots are contributing to their lives.

*“We are aware of climate resilient cash crops, can save water for irrigation and can get high yield within no time. No doubt, our profitability is high and we are cropping ,ore crops in one year. One Demo Plot owner claimed”*

* **Kitchen gardens:** Various kitchen gardens were visited along the Partner organization representatives more than 90% of the kitchen garden were active and women were actively managing these. Further this practice is replicated in surrounding villages and HH managed their small-scale kitchen garden. During discussion with the local community and concerned representatives from the HANDS they communicated that we have distributed seeds along the required equipment amongst the community for kitchen gardening the total cost per KG was around 4 thousand. This segment was lead by women in HHs and they were much excited to add more varieties of vegetable in their small kitchen garden. Their response on this was remarkable as most of women claimed to extend their kitchen by adding fruit trees. Women in the FGDs also extended their thoughts that they have replicate this practice in surrounding villages and they are also maintaining it throughout the year with their own pocket. They were pleased to share that they have significantly increase in their household income and they have enough food to feed their family members.

*I never thought I will be able to manage vegetable for my home, I always depend on my husband to bring vegetables and food for our children. Now I grow my own crops in my home. I not only fulfill my household needs but sell vegetables to bring my children food. I support my husband in managing HH economic. Gull Bano Says*.

* Fishing pond: Fishing ponds were operational and more fish nursery is growing. Owner of pond was pleased to share that he is earning 16000/PKR from this pond in per month. He remarked to long live OXFAM and HANDS for supporting him. His family well-being is improved and he is adding more fish to this pond.
* The flood protection measure and equipment required during flood were found available at village Allah Dino Bajeer UC-Shaheed Rani. The local were observed trained over DRR.
* The mobile recharging facilities were adding values in the lives of shopkeepers. They are earning almost 600 per day from one mobile unit facility. One of the women beneficiary claimed that its a handsome income I and my two women partners share. They are managing its operation and maintenance and running a shop in their village. They are maintaining its record book.
* Formation of the village Disaster Management Committees, Union Council Disaster Management Committees were formed, and every-one have given opportunity to participate and inclusion were insured. Women were also given opportunity to be the member of the same. And they were trained regularly regarding DRR.

So the above mentioned challenges expressed the level of achievement made under the project. Apart from building capacity of the local community regarding DRR, we are of the view that the project did not contribute much toward its other important component that i.e., alternative livelihood enhancement.

*“Overall, we are of the view that the project was relevant to our very basic needs. Because our whole district remains under threat toward frequent stressors. We have witness to many disasters in our life. Which is affecting our livelihoods and our houses. With this project, we have learned about the disaster management. With the support of HANDS, we have disaster management committees which extends supports during unwanted situations. Before this project we did not have any such understanding. The project helped us a lot. [ Minority community in Village Auko Kohli, of UC-Nindo]”*

## Alternative Livelihood Options:

*Are the alternative livelihood options viable for women, men and persons with disabilities? To what extent these are adding value in resilience building*?

The activities undertaken under the BRCP project focused on the bringing resilience into the community and providing alternative options for livelihood. The training session organized for the community, in which individuals from almost every walk of life participated. That includes women group, person with disabilities, minorities and youth group (both male & female). With such initiative they have created awareness amongst the masses regarding DRR.

The point of view shared by different group from the communities are as given below

*“I think the intervention of the project proved better. It should be continued. It has helped to improve the attitudes of the people as well.” [KII-with UDMC member] a local non-governmental organization working in the area. The KII was carried out in UC-Abdullah Shah of the District.*

*Furthermore, they communicated that “I think the best outcome of the project was capacitating to prove beneficial for the farmers. They have got things to establish their business with it. Similarly, the same community were of the view that they give priority to the person with disabilities and helped them in every routine activity, whether it is related to earning bread, or other necessities. [KII with Women Leader in UC-Abdullah Shah]*

*The main source of our livelihoods is agriculture/farming or agriculture labour, as far as the person with the disabilities is concerned, our whole community give preference to the PWDs. [KII with Youth Female Group from UC-Nindo]*

*We all are farmers, and our main source of income in the whole area is agricultural activities. we grow different type of crops and vegetables. However, under this project we have been trained on the kitchen gardening as an alternative source of livelihood, we started practicing this new activity at our household with the support of HANDS and Oxfam. We have received seeds and basic tools for maintaining our kitchen gardens. Our women helps us a lot in maintaining these KGs. We are happy to get free of cost vegetables. [Mukhtiar Mallah, (Disable) in UC-Abdullah Shah]*

Kitchen Gardening was one of the initiatives welcomed by the local community, multiple KGs were visited during a field visit to UC-Nindo, where the community were distributed seeds and other agricultural tools to look after the KGs regularly, every kitchen garden were found quite maintained. The KGs were mainly maintained by the women members of the household. That mean, it is found useful and should be replicated

Owing to the case study from the UC-Shaheed Rani village Allah Dino Bajeer, a huge investment and efforts were made, with the idea to introduce the climate smart agriculture practices and create opportunities for the alternative livelihood. The organization was of the view that this might get to achieve better productivity and as result will contribute toward the socio-economic prosperity in the area, however it could not work.

*During an interview with a fisher man at UC Nindo, where the organization has setup a fishing pond for local community. The beneficiary was interviewed it was observed that the fishpond has contributed much toward his income earning he shared that on average I earn 10-15thousand rupees per month. Initially, HANDS has setup the pond for me and provided fishes after several months of my efforts, it started earning and now I can breed more fishes in the pond, and I am very happy with it. [KII with the Fishing community at UC Nindo]*

*our main source of earning is farming activity. Our land is very fertile; therefore the organization has focused on introducing kitchen gardening in our area. They have formed two kitchen gardens for us. We have been provided with the seeds and some other tools. We get seasonal vegetables from maintaining these KGs, we are already used too with farming activities, there it is easy for us to work in our gardens at home and this is very beneficial for all of us. We will continue working on improving these KGs as it our source of food. [Minorities in village Ramchand Nindo Kohli UC-Nindo]*

*A kitchen garden with standing vegetables was observed and the during interview with the lady she expressed the efforts of the organization and her personal interest toward maintaining the Kitchen Garden at her home, she was very happy and will keep the kitchen garden alive and will expand gradually. [KII-with a women Leader UC Abulah Shah]*

*the project worked in our area for around two years, we came to know about the project interventions from our neighboring villages, where it was already implementing. When the HANDS team visited our village, we have been informed about the project formally. Then they have started developing our capacity with the trainings regarding Disaster Risk Reduction. Additionally, they have also trained us on developing Kitchen Gardening at our household level. initially the provided us with the certain amount of seeds and tools for maintaining the KGs. However, they have assessed our whole village and decided to transferred some more assets. As a result they have provided our community with mobile phone for effective communication and established as small shope (kiryana shop) [Minority communities of the Village Pancho Kohli UC-Nindo]*

*other than capacity building of the local community regarding natural disaster and their safety protocols, Oxfam through HANDS has introduced alternative sources of the livelihoods. For example, transferring assets to the community in the form of livestock were found to be very beneficial for earning bread by the community. [Saleh Khatti, Forest Officer District Badin]*

## Modern Climate Smart Practices:

To what extent modern climate smart practices aligned to contextual need? Are these being replicated, cost effective and friendly to use? How satisfied communities are with it?

* **Awareness Regarding Mobile Application: Technology has changed the picture of communities in Badin. Once they were dependent on Radio and TV for weather updates but now they are connected with Ba-Khabr Kissan App. They have generated whats app groups of their villages. They are receiving instant updates and they are sharing with all members. Now they know when rains will fall and how they will plan for their Agri inputs.** Youth groups are leading from front and they are real change agents for their communities.
* During multiple focused group discussion, we came to know that, the organization has trained the community on the information technology (Mobile usage and Ba-Khbar Kisan Application), they have distributed mobile phones amongst the community.

*In our village, We are updated with the instant news. We received weather updates and manage our irrigation and chemicals accordingly. We are much safe and we keep our livestock and agriculture safe too. [FGD Youth Group Male UC-Nindo]*

*We have been provided with the mobile phone and we were trained to how to use the mobile for early warning, weather updates, cropping and communication in case of any unwanted situation.*

*[Minority Community of Pancho Kohli, Auko Kohli of UC-Nindo]*

*Awareness is given regarding agriculture. We have provided them app and mobile worth Rs. 4000.*

*[KII-Women Leader UC-Abdullah Shah]*

* **Introducing Modern Technology for agricultural practices:** When we talk about the modern techniques in agriculture field, that mean introducing technologically depended on irrigation practices etc. under this project, apart from transferring different assets amongst the community, the donor was also setting up several demo plots with advance technology like sprinkling irrigation powered by solar energy.

*During a visit to UC-Nindo, we visited a demo plot, the concerned beneficiary at site told the team that I have cultivated tomato in this season and had earned good money. I have been transferred this plot 8 month ago. HANDS has provided me with a solar powered water pump which is portable in nature. And whenever I need to irrigate the field, I simply bring the machinery and setup here and do irrigate the entire field. It helped me a lot and I am happy with it. [KII with the Agricultural Community at UC-Nindo]*

A Cup Anemometer (wind Speed Measuring device) was found during a visit to UC-Nindo. During the visit, the representative from the HANDS informed the evaluation team, that the technology has been introduced for the first time here at village level. The device regularly monitors the wind speed and is connected with the government system. The concerned department monitor and record data regularly, this help the local with updated weather condition and other unforeseen weather conditions. Based on which the local use schedule their farming activities accordingly. [KII with the HANDS Representative at UC-Nindo]

## Inclusion:

*To what extent participation of vulnerable groups (women, PWDs and minorities) in VDMCs and UDMCs supporting the community DRR needs? How effective were the social structures in combating recent disasters (floods, locust attacks, and COVID19)?*

During close interaction with the local community it was noted that, the each UC was having disaster management committees at UC and village level. And almost in every group of discussion with had with different class of the individual, almost everyone endorsed the positive role of the VDMCs and UDMCs. Moreover, they further informed the evaluation team about their role and support during challenging times like flood and drought.

*HANDS has organized trainings sessions for us, they have invited us for trainings, in which we were trained about the DRR particularly floods and drought. That how to protect our selves during such circumstances. Other than that we were educated about helping/ evacuating persons with disabilities, women, kids and elderly member of the community during such time. Additionally, protecting the livestock and their fodder and how to store our basic food items before any disaster.*

*[FGD with Agricultural Community UC Nindo]*

*Training conducted regarding DRR and First Aid etc., will be helpful in emergency situation. People who got their training will help the remining community member in floods or drought condition. We were not aware before the project. [FGD with Agricultural Community UC Nindo]*

*Our VDMC/UDMC member regularly meet with the government official at their places/offices and they respond incase of any unwanted situation.*

*[KII with Women Leader of Community UC Nindo]*

During focus group discussion with the minorities, they were found well aware of the project purpose. They informed that, initially, we came to know about this project from Mr. Ishfaq, and we were informed that we would be provided with seeds and a demo plot will be established for us. During the project, we have received seeds and basic tools for the kitchen gardening, trainings regarding Disaster Risk Reduction and smart phones were also provided. [Minorities at village Auko Kohli, UC-Nindo*]. After discussion with the minority community in the Auko Kohli Village, we can see the overall impact of the project, as it has ensured inclusion with true spirit, and no one is left behind based on the ethnicity, cast, religion etc.*

## Efficiency:

This section provides information on efficiency of the project activities, which is key focus area of this evaluation. The areas explored under the umbrella of efficiency involves various research questions related to the effectiveness of early warning system, community’s approach to improve agricultural practices by using agricultural advisory app, the level of access to that app and the extent to which it proved efficient in resolving the issues of the target area and its contribution towards balancing power dynamics between men and women. All of these research questions are discussed below under respective sub-headings:

* **Effectiveness of Early Warning System:** *How effective is early warning system?*

Badin being a disaster-prone area, has a history of climatic hazards and disasters in the form of floods, droughts and cyclones. Considering the geographic situation of the area, the project interventions focused on enlightening the community about early warning system. This particular system was mainly developed with the incorporation of agricultural advisory app named “Bakhabar Kisaan App.” The project also offered mobile phones in the communities so that they can *stay updated with*

*Yes, we have been provided trainings regarding Early warning system and First Aid. Our village has the UDMCs and VDMCs and working in flood and any other disaster and helped the remaining community during evacuation and early information. [FGD-Community-UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*We have been trained on the early warning system, HANDS has conducted multiple training sessions with us. Additionally, we were also trained on the first aid.*

*[Minority at Pancho Kohli, UC-Nindo]*

The issue of early warning was addressed via different approaches, by introducing Ba-Khbar Kisaan App with the idea to inform the agricultural community and help them protect their livelihood, while they have established VDMCs and UDMCs at village and Union Council level respectively, to inform the local community immediately incase there is a an unwanted situation. The UDCMs and VDMCs with inclusion of men, women, minority, PWDs and Youth regularly meets and coordinate with the local administration (PDMA or DDMA).

*The farmer community of our village get information through Smart App, and they get regular message about the weather, type of crop or season and other guidance. [FGD Agri-community UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*Once we were provided with the mobile phone under the project, we were informed about the purpose of introducing mobile phone. It is very helpful to get in touch with the modern technology. As by our selves we could not afford such technology. [Minority community of the Village Pancho Kohli, UC-Nindo]*

Most of the community, did not have access to mobile phone or any other smart application introduced during the project implementation phase. Nevertheless, with the formation of community institutions, and their connectedness with the local administration has significantly filled this gap, and everyone is timely informed ahead of any unwanted situation.

*During a consultation meeting with the community at UC-Shaheed Rani, the community were well informed and safety equipment’s provided. They have shared their experience, what they have learned during their association with the project and how to deal with the flood in future.*

*[FGD with the Community at UC-Shaheed Rani Village Allah Dino Bajeer]*

*Youth group are the effective players during disaster situation whether it is informing other communities or helping them during evacuation, youth will be found taking the lead.*

*[FGD-Youth Group UC-Abdullah Shah]*

*Our community receives early information about the flood and other weather-related updates through mobile phone. Other sources include FM Radio, which is very helpful.*

*[Minorities from Village Ramchand Nindo Kohli UC-Nindo]*

*We have received training on DRR under this project, and now we have learnt how to handle the disaster*

*[FGD-Youth Group UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*People are informed prior to any disaster in our village*

*[FGD-Youth Group Female UC-Nindo]*

* **Improved Agricultural Practices through Agricultural Advisory App:** Are communities improving agri-practices by using agri advisory app? What is the level of access of app? Who is able to access (gender, disabled, minorities), How efficient is it in resolving issues? How effective are the early warning systems?
* It has been mentioned earlier in the same report that people were found not very much use to with the technology. Still the community in general and women member of the same community in particular does not play with any technology like mobile phone or other application.
* A major portion of the interviewed community shared their experiences, they use their indigenous knowledge for agricultural advisory or seek guidance from the within the community. Nevertheless, some of the participants also shared their personal experience and advisory they took through the mobile phone application. Additionally, some of them have informed the team that they get information from the Agricultural Extension department.

*We have been given information regarding the Mobile phone application*

*[FGD-Youth- UC Shaheed Rani]*

*Our community interacts through phone to inform each other’s regarding any calamity. And only one man uses the app in our village and he then conveys the news to the rest of the community.*

*[KII Women Leader UC Abdullah Shah]*

* **Building Resilience of the Community toward Natural Disaster:** *How is the Project contributing to the resilience of communities in the face of disasters (floods, locust, and COVID-19)*

The project area is highly vulnerable climate change effect particularly, flood and drought. The main components of the project intervention in the area were bringing resilience and providing alternative source of livelihood. Building resilience of the community was primarily based on the capacity building of the each and every individual living in the same community. The partner organization has frequently conducted training session on the First Aid, Evacuation, Early Warning System, climate smart agricultural practices and kitchen gardening etc., as an alternative livelihood.

In every UC, we faced different nature of public opinion about the project interventions, however being a third-party evaluator we are of the view that the project has significantly contributed toward the public awareness and building resilience toward flood or drought event.

They admit that, earlier or before the project intervention we were not aware what to do and how to do before floods season and during flood event. While after the successful implementation of the project they are now comparatively well aware of the hazards around them.

*This project was about the awareness of flood disaster and agricultural practices, we have got very much information regarding DRR and Agriculture activities.*

*[FGD Community at Gul Mohmmad Thebo UC Shaheed Rani]*

*Yes, HANDS has invited us multiple times for different types of training sessions regarding DRR (floods, Storm and torrential rainfalls) and how to protect ourselves during such events. In these trainings we were also informed how to facilitate the old age, person with disabilities, women, children and move them into safer location. Furthermore, they have also trained us on how to store the basic food items for their selves and fodder for their cattle.*

*[FGD Community at Muhammad Raheem Solangi UC Shaheed Rani]*

*While discussing the matter with the youth member of the community, they informed us that*

*We have been engaged with the project for two years, and the project was all about DRR. We have been imparted training pertaining to the disaster management and personal safety.*

*[FGD Youth Group UC Shaheed Rani]*

*We learnt about climate that how rains affect agriculture production. We had benefited of the trainings. And We used to deal with the calamities by our own.*

*[FGD Youth Group UC Abdullah Shah]*

*Climate changes affect villagers. It damages a lot of our socio-economics. We were not told much about the agriculture practices but have been informed regarding the Disaster management.*

*[FGD, Community UC Abdullah Shah]*

*For the youth, the NGO has conducted training sessions for the youth regarding disaster preparedness and emergencies, however no other thing has been provided under the project. However, our community is very poor, and we suggest that the organization should provide training to the youth to impart some skills, which can help them earn some money to help their families.*

*[FGD Youth Group Female UC Nindo]*

*The training we had been offered to participate in was found helpful, we came to know about the disaster (flood & drought) we have learned new ways/methods of farming in challenging circumstances. We have also learnt how to grow in the waterlogged area and protecting the crops/vegetables from the pests. We further suggest that such kind of training sessions should be regularly carried out to help more people trained/educated.*

*[FGD Youth Group Male UC Nindo]*

*Initially, we were completely unaware of the issues, however after the project training session, we came to know about the DRR (Flood and Drought) and we participated well in these trainings. The training related to DRR was helpful as it informed us how to protect ourselves and our livestock etc., during disasters (floods). The impact of climate change over the community and their livelihoods and protecting themselves was quite useful component.*

*[FGD Community UC Nindo]*

*We did not get more from this project but we have been given a few number of trainings. Some of the people get much information after conducting these trainings. We are of the view that this project was not aligned with the need of the local community. As their prirorities are economic activities and creating skilled workers. The information given during the training would be useful incase there is a disaster.*

*We think that under this project, the organization has only contacted 8-10 person per village for training and every time they were informed/trained on the same content. Which was related to Disaster risk reduction.*

*[FGD Community UC Nindo]*

*Under the project, HANDS has successfully formed, village disaster management committees, afterward the VDMC were provided trainings on flood and drought disaster and also about first aid and early warning system. During the committee as well training session, they have ensured inclusion and participation of the women community. Their point of view was given due consideration in the overall process.*

*[Minority community of Pancho Kohli, UC-Nindo]*

*District Badin being closed to the coastal areas experiences frequent flood events. As a result, the local faces economic crises because it damages their agricultural fields and cattle, because farming is the only main source of income in this area. Different national and international organizations are working to help the local communities and protect their lives. They are working on health, livelihood and now Disaster Risk Reduction is also a main area they are focusing on. Like Oxfam through HANDS has brought awareness amongst the local community. Earlier they were not much aware of the flood hazards and their consequences. After conducting regular training sessions on DRR, their capacity has been built. Now the local can protect their livestock and plan their agricultural activities according to the weather updates they get through different sources.*

*[Saleh Khatti, Forest Officer, District Badin]*

* **Project’s Orientation towards Balancing Power and Agency Dynamics:** To what extent, for Power and Agency, which of the following are changed positively or negatively?

1. Self- efficacy, ability to make decisions
2. Control of household resources
3. Women’s access to information and technology
4. Women’s participation in community groups
5. Women’s involvement in community decision-making.
6. Women have leadership roles in the community.

One of an important group of beneficiaries of the project were women working in the agricultural sector. As the project also focused on gender equality, the evaluation focused on analyzing the situation of women in the context that how the project is primarily contributing towards their empowerment and ensuring women’s participation. Another research question addressing the project’s contribution in balancing the power and agency structure included different areas like assessing women’s control of household resources, self-efficacy and ability to make decisions, women access to information and technology, women’s participation in various aspects like community groups and community decision making and assessing if women have leadership roles in the community or not. The evaluation has tried to dig out relevant information on these key research questions which are discussed as below:

* **Women’s Involvement in Community Decision-Making:** In almost every focused group discussion we had informed the evaluation team that women is the integral part of our society. Because they use to work with men shoulder by shoulder. Whether it is a household matter or agricultural activities in the field. They took responsibilities and deliver up to the best. It is the routine practice within the community that majority of the agricultural related matter are looked after by the women member, additionally, they are also responsible for the care of livestock if any with them, and above all they had to take care of their kids health. So being a third party, we have noted that women are the one who have been given due importance within this society.

*We engage female member of the community in every matter, so it has nothing to do with the project. and women are given equal opportunity to share view point and make decision.*

*[FGD Community UC Nindo]*

*The project has made the women member of the community quite clever, that now they can speak for their rights and help men during disaster situation. They also became confident and share their viewpoint in any decision making process during UDMC or VDMC*

*[FGD Community UC Shaheed Rani]*

*Our women work with the men shoulder by shoulder, in fields, and other domestic activities. our females are very supportive.*

*[Minorities of the village Ramchand Nindo Kohli, UC Nindo]*

*Women of the areas work at fields on routine basis. They also work as daily wagers. They also have some skills. The established organizations work along the women to help them in various ways.*

*[FGD Community UC Abdullah Shah]*

*The village disaster management committee and union council disaster management committee in our area has women membership. it was the suggestion of the HANDS as well the local community to give opportunity to the women community. Because in our community men and women both work together in fields, in farming and household activities.*

*[Minority community at Village Pancho and Auko Kohli, UC-Nindo]*

* **Control of Household Resources; Women running Businesses through Alternative Livelihoods:** One of the project’s success and efficiency remained in balancing the power and agency dynamics particularly in enabling the women in opting for alternative livelihood options instead of solely relying on agriculture and eventually contributing towards women’s empowerment. Besides helping men in their routine business activities, some of the women received assets under the project and started earning as an alternative livelihood supporting their family. Women of the same community hold the responsibility to control the household resources.

*During an interview with the women leader at Village Allah Dino Bajeer at UC Shaheed Rani, she informed us that I have received 03 livestock (Goats) as an asset under the project. However, it took me almost on and half year to get their milk and increase their number. While one of the goats which was having poor health condition could not survive and eventually died. But now they are reproducing and started giving milk and I am very much satisfied with it.*

*[FGD Women leader UC Shaheed Rani.]*

*In our community, women have the control of overall household activities, like buying & selling cattle, saving money and other grocery related things.*

*[Minority at Village Pancho Kohli, UC-Nindo]*

*we are only responsible for the controlling household related matter because men do not take interest in it. But we faces huge financial problems we do not have other source of income.*

*[FGD-UC Nindo]*

*In our community only women take care of the household activities like cooking bringing fuel wood, bring fodder for the cattle etc.*

*[FGD Women member UC Abdullah Shah]*

*All women member of the community is dedicated to control domestic activities. we used to take care our kids and even cattle grazing and their fodders etc., remains our primary responsibility. Cooking for the whole family is also one of the important tasks we do regularly.*

*[Walayat Khatoon, (Disable) from Village Allah Dino Bajeer UC-Shaheed Rani]*



Ms. Sughra is the resident of Village Haji Khaskheli, UC Shaheed Rani. Under the Project, she is the beneficiary of an enterprise. Ms. Sughra informed that “My husband used to live in Karachi for work. Two years ago, HANDS team visited our village and the community mobilizer met with me. They visited my house and had discussion with me. They told me that we will setup a small shop for you at your home. I was very happy, as they informed me that we will set up a shop worth upto Rupees 40thousand. However, they have just bought me stuff which was approximately 5 to 6thousand Rupees. I have personally arranged the shelves you see in my shop. My husband is still in Karachi. As this shop is not sufficient to fulfill our needs.

* **Women’s Access to Information and Technology:** Another research question under efficiency was to examine if women have adequate access to information and technology. The findings from the evaluation in this regard suggest that a considerable fraction of target population of the women do not have adequate access to information and technology however, it was found some of the that majority of the young girls knows little about mobile phone and its usage.

*We do not have any access and understanding to mobile phones*

*[FGD Youth Female Group UC Nindo]*

*We have access to mobile phone, but we do not use it for this purpose. But we do communicate information to each other as early warning regarding floods. Women member do not have much understanding of it.*

*[FGD Agri Community UC Nindo]*

*Women do not have access to Information technology, neither we understand such things and we do not have interest. Our most of the time are spent on taking care our houses and cattle.*

*[Walayat Khatoon (Disable) at Village Allah Dino Bajeer UC-Shaheed Rani]*

* **Women’s Inclusion in Leadership Roles and Community Groups:** A set of research questions in the current evaluation remained on assessing the level of women’s participation in community groups and to see to what extent women have leadership roles in the targeted UCs. For equal representation of women, the project developed community groups in the form of women leader and youth groups. These groups proved considerably important particular in terms of information dissemination related to agricultural concerns, livestock problems, disaster preparedness, weather updates and many other relevant aspects. At all UCs, varied categories of all participants repeatedly mentioned about the active engagement of women in community groups of women leaders and youth groups. A women leader (study respondent) while sharing about her experience stated.

*The women member participates in information dissemination and help the male member to protect the household and do whatever is required.*

*[KII-Women Leader UC Nindo]*

*We have been provided equal opportunity to be the member in all VDMCs and UDMCs at Village and Union Council level respectively. And the men member respects our opinion*

*[FGD Women member UC Abdullah Shah]*

*In every Disaster Committee we have ensured female membership from the community. Because our women help us a lot in every activity. Whether it is household related or business related.*

*[FGD Agri Community UC Shaheed Rani]*

*All the local matters are being discussed within the community. The community group welcome women member from within the same community and listen their point of view and they respect and consider their viewpoint.*

*[Saleh Khatti, Forest Officer, District Badin]*

## Partnership and Cooperation:

To what extent have partnerships been sought and established and synergies been created in the delivery of assistance? How effective were DRR coordination Meetings (District and Sindh Chapters)?

The project design has two key components; one outcome is about the community resilience through enhanced knowledge and capacity while other outcome is focused on the enhanced capacity, commitment and accountability of governance. In order to achieve these results, it is important to build synergy in both components through collaboration, coordination and effective communication.

For this, the study gathered information reflect that there are efforts made to make the community aware about the line departments, their roles and responsibilities and also to establish communication and coordination mechanisms among various stakeholders.

*The project has delivered upto great extent in the local area. Because, with this project we have developed a strong coordination between the community institutions and concerned local departments such as irrigation, livestock, fisheries and District Disaster Management Authority and their representatives. The UDMC and VDMCs are affectively working in the program area and they are connected with the DDMA and get regular updates/feedbacks through meetings in person and via messages.*

*[KII-HANDS Representative District Office]*

*HANDS has formed disaster management committees at village and Union Council level. in which male, female, PWDs, Youth and Minorities were the member. These community insituation held meeting regularly and some time visit to the Disaster management office in Badin. They give us information about weather and other flood hazards.*

*[FGD-UC Shaheed Rani]*

*Our women community participates in the VDMC and UDMC meetings. The male member gives us time and respects our suggestions. We do not go with them to the meeting but they conduct meetings with the local Disaster management department.*

*[KII- Women Leader UC-Nindo]*

Being a neutral evaluator, we have been engaged with almost every individual belongs to different walk of life. However, they never denied the formation of the community institutions and their regular internal meeting and further coordination with local administration.

*During a meeting with the HANDS project team, one of the female community mobilizers informed us that in the recent days we were somewhere in the field and in one of our program UC a fire incident happened. They have immediately informed HANDS office and local government department. Within no time the government department took notice and reached the site for service delivery. And as a result, no causality were reported.*

*[KII-HANDS Representative at District Office]*

*The community members informed each other through mobile phone about any upcoming flood etc. because they receive regular information from the concerned government department. Furthermore, the community members are now aware and they are responsible for evacuating the vulnerable community members in particular along the livestock and protecting animal fodder and our food grains etc. so the overall, leadership of the community quite efficient.*

*[FGD Community-UC Nindo]*

*Yes, the community institutions are properly in contact with the local Disaster Management Authority DDMA*

*[KII Women Leader-UC Nindo]*

*Yes the Village Disaster Management Committees and Union Council Disaster Management Committees meet with local government regularly.*

*[FGD Youth Group UC Nindo]*

*Under this project, HANDS and the partner who was engaged in earlier stages work much on the DRR related plan and are ready to be implemented. We are of the view that incase, Oxfam are interested to introduce phase II of the same project. we would suggest that these plan needs to be considered and implemented in closed collaboration with the respective community, the results will be very fruitful. [Ghaffar Khoso, Incharge Resilience Academy]*

## Effectiveness:

This section presents information related to the theme of effectiveness which is a key element of DAC criterion. Major key questions explored under this theme includes assessment of the effectiveness of village level committees and to investigate if they posed any impact on the resilience of communities. Furthermore, the evaluation also remained focused on extracting relevant information on the achievement of stated outcomes and objectives as stated in the project document. Following are the details on the key research questions explored under the area of effectiveness:

* **Village Level Leadership; Impact on Community Resilience:** *How effective is village level leadership? Is there a positive impact on resilience of communities?*

One of the project’s successes can be contributed to the activation, development and sensitization of VDMCs (Village Disaster Management Committees). In all three UCs, majority of the participants mentioned about the proactive role that VDMCs are playing in terms of community resilience. Majority of the participants talked about their experiences of climatic emergencies in which they shared that these village level committees provide guidance on weather updates and equip community people with essential coping strategies to combat unexpected natural hazards. Clearly, majority of evidences were inclined towards a similar stance reflecting an optimistic view on village level leadership. During an FGD, it was shared.

*We have active Village Disaster Management Committee and Union Council Disaster Management Committees working efficiently in coordination with the DDMA*

*[FGD Youth- UC Abdullah Shah]*

*Community organization have been formed with the help of HANDS and they have been trained too.*

*[FGD Youth Group UC-Nindo]*

*Before the project we did not know about such committees now we have UDMCs and VDMCs and youth have been provided opportunities to be the member of the same committee.*

*[FGD Youth Group UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*We know about the village Disaster management committee in our nearby village however, we do not have any such committee.*

*[FGD-Agri Community UC Abdullah Shah]*

*Disaster committees are working here to help in the time of disasters. We let coordinate the relevant departments with them.*

*[KII Women leader- UC Abdullah Shah]*

*Our VDMC/UDMC member regularly meet with the government official at their places/offices and they respond in case of any unwanted situation.*

*[KII-Women leader UC Nindo]*

*It was observed that maximum number of the surveyed community informed that we have active community institutions working for the betterment of the community.*

* **Achievement of Planned Objectives and Outcomes:** Are the planned objectives and outcomes in the project document achieved?

As already mentioned in section of relevance, the evaluation findings suggest that as far as the achievement of stated outcomes and objectives are concerned; project proved significantly fruitful in the attainment of its planned objectives particular in the context of community resilience by building knowledge and understanding of target UCs towards disaster mitigation and preparedness. In all target UCs, the resilience of communities was evident from the way in which participants proclaimed about their positive experiences related to project interventions (capacity building only). Nevertheless, due to lack of adequate financial resources and limited asset distributions in the program areas, the element of self-efficacy will still remain a challenge for the community and donors too.

The project offered varied trainings and awareness sessions addressing the issues that are faced by communities as result of climate change; these include varied agriculture problems as well as recurrence of climate induced disasters. The project conducted trainings and disseminated important information around the mentioned issues which needed required awareness and skill building. The major trainings conducted under the project were related to climate smart agricultural practices, the use of agricultural advisory app [Bakhabar Kisaan App] for establishing early warning system, sessions on alternative livelihood and business management/negotiation skills. Majority of the participants from all the target UCs held a similar view indicating that project posed a positive impact on their agricultural practices and disaster mitigation. However, the technology introduced (sprinkling irrigation) under climate smart agriculture practices did not work and all the demo-plots established were found barren or non-productive which was not less than a surprise for the evaluation team.

Owing to the field experience and response from the community the study findings clearly reflect that the project has deliver up to great extent when it comes to the Community capacities and Household capacities such as formation of the community institution, managing low and high flood situation, successful alternative livelihood options, demo plots, Kitchen gardens, weather updates and capacity building of district level Govt institutions.

*Keeping in mind the non-availability of water for the irrigation purpose, the organization has introduced water efficient irrigation techniques into the community which is developing demo plots with drip irrigation. After getting successful result, this activity can truly transform the overall agricultural sector of areas. as more than 90% of our community relies on agriculture as their main source of livelihood.*

*[Ghaffar Khoso Incharge Resilience Academy District Badin]*

## Impact:

*What are the results achieved beyond the log-frame?*

The project has impacted the overall community in many aspects, for instance if we look into the capacity building regarding Disaster Risk Reduction and its mitigation, the project can be rated successful as it has educated a wide portion of the same community. Whereas as far as the service delivery and efficiency of the government organization is concerned, there are still gaps which needs to be addressed. Somehow, the coordination, connectedness and service delivery from the government end has been enhance. Nevertheless, still there is a long way to go.

If we look into the other major component of the intervention which was creating opportunities for the alternative livelihood and introducing climate smart agriculture practices. So in that area, the organization has only successfully introduced the kitchen gardening practices at a very small scall, it might be having good impact over the community lives but it cannot be significant owing to its scale.

The project could have far lasting impact over the community if the project was completely aligned with the local needs, during interviews and various discussions in all program UCs, we observed that every individual from the community were eager to have skilled related trainings, though they endorse the importance of flood vulnerability and its awareness, however they are of the view that bread earning remains the key priority then other aspects.

If we flip the picture, the project has contributed towards the formation of the community institutions, understanding regarding DRR, early warning system and respect to the women and other vulnerable member of the community. The project can be rated successful when it comes to building resilience communities.

*During the project, we have been trained on the agricultural/farming practices. How to carryout farming efficiently despite having multiple challenges like lack of proper machinery, financial resources and most importantly adequate water for irrigation, HANDS team has trained our community and as a result we are comparatively getting better results in terms of yield. This is ultimately contributing toward our earning. We are much resilient now and can cope with any stressors and shocks. Our agriculture is improved and we are much safer now. [Walayat Khatoon, (Disable) from Allah Dino Bajeer UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*I am of the view, that project was developed, keeping in mind the basic needs of the local community. Because if you see, District Badin is one of the most susceptible districts toward frequent floods so donor has focused on building resilience of the community toward future natural disaster. And they did it very rightly, by organizing training events which I think has helped the community to stand on their own feet.*

*[Ghaffar Khoso, Incharge Resilience Academy District Badin]*

## Sustainability:

*How will project strengthen and sustain its impact during the remaining period?*

Considering the project objectives and results, the sustainability factor is largely dependent on capacity building of both community and government stakeholders, enhanced community capacity through community led structures, awareness of role of various line departments and coordination of community with government through some forum and sensitization at community level regarding their own roles and responsibilities.

Formation of the VDMCs and UDMCs and its strengthening is a key to the sustainability of the interventions. However, the UCMs and VDMCs cannot perfume well standalone unless there is robust coordination and connectedness with the local governments and obviously the international donor agencies.

Their periodic trainings, and personal capacity building, keep them upto date regarding the new agricultural technique, the level of hazards they are exposed to and risk associated with the hazards should be communicated to them. The local partner organization HANDS must ensure regular spot check and conducted bi-annual refresher meeting with communities, to maintain a good relation.

* **Improved knowledge and capacity:** The study findings clearly reflect that project, as per plan, has achieved its outputs; despite having several challenges the project contribution toward building community and government stakeholders’ capacity through various training sessions which seems quite promising in ensuring sustainability of the project. It is, however, important to mention that more than capacity, the element of co-ordination seemed enhanced as far as the role of provincial and district government is concerned.

In almost all stakeholder interviews/focus group discussion, majority of the participants talked about project’s contribution and appreciated various aspects like DRR forum, development of VDMCs, coordination meetings, DRR management plans.

The government agencies has told the research team that due to sensitivity of the District Badin, we have integrated all aspects into already existing strategies and plans of district and provincial agricultural departments shifting specific focus towards the area of Badin. It is presumed that the integration factor will further add up toward the sustainability of the project in one way as state actors are also on board now and are imparting information to the target communities as well. With continued involvement of district and provincial stakeholders, the project can further leave its mark.

*As far as our capacity is concerned, the project main focus was to educate almost every individual of the community irrespective of its gender, cast, age and religious backgrounds. Which I believe is the success of the program. HANDS has delivered multiple training sessions on disaster management and agricultural improvement. we all have participated into these trainings, and we learnt a lot. And we are of the view that this type of training should have been conducted very early. [Walayat Khatoon (Disable) Village Allah Dino Bajeer UC-Shaheed Rani]*

*As you know that one of the key objectives of the project was to bring awareness amongst the masses, awareness regarding prevailing natural hazards and their possible way out. In order to protect community precious lives and their livelihoods. They have organized various trainings such as DRR, skills and climate smart agricultural practices, and formation of village and union council level disaster management committees for communities belongs every walk of life. As a result they are now well aware of the issue and likewise they are working to build an earthen embankment around their houses to protect their selves from the future flood events.*

*[Ghaffar Khoso, Incharge Resilience Academy, District Badin]*

**Annexure: Evaluation Matrix & Rating**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Rating** | | | | | **Rationale** |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **Design** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Relevance** |  |  |  |  |  | As far as the project relevance is concerned, it was found relevant owing to the vulnerability of the program areas. the evaluation depicts that the project was aligned with the local and contextual needs of the community.   * Badin, as a coastal area with high risk of natural and environmental hazards face frequent and serious issues resulting in major livelihood and survival issues. The project directly addressed the problems by offering support, in various ways, to build resilience through targeting the root causes and offering local solutions. However, the climate smart agricultural practices did not give any significant contribution toward creating livelihood opportunities. * Project is contributing towards capacity building of communities in form of being more adaptive and transformative skills to enhance their skills for being more resilient. * Project is delivering climate resilient practices for agriculture, introducing high efficiency irrigation system, improved early warning systems and suggesting more ways of livelihood other than livelihood. This is more important to build resilience communities. * Project is specifying to enhance more social capital by involving youth as leaders, VDMC and UDMCs are their representatives. * The project directly contributed toward personal capacity building regarding DRR, early warning system, introduction kitchen gardening, formation of the community institutions and assigning their roles * The project helped community to build on social capital and community capacity by bringing them closer through local structures, sensitization for needs and issues by vulnerable groups, ensuring gender equity, brining women at front by providing them training and opportunities. * People now have platform to get together, share information, discuss issues for problem solving collectively. The element of trust and confidence and trust has been inculcated which as per findings was not there before project initiation. |
| **Efficiency** |  |  |  |  |  | * Demo plots are one of the important components of this project. These are adding values in the lives of HH. These multi component demo plots are introducing high efficiency irrigation systems but also promoting climate smart practices. beneficiaries from demo plots are adding more values by breeding fish in pond and adding fruits plants like lemon. Although rains badly affected the plots but these are well functional and models are attracting communities to opt. These are low cost models and easy to operate. * However, building community resilience toward frequent floods, storms, locusts, rains and other natural disaster were efficiently delivered. And the results are significant. People irrespective of the gender were aware regarding DRR, early warning system etc. * All the community groups are involved in the design in various roles offering different capacity building opportunities suiting to their needs and local context. E.g. Youth taking lead on Bakhbar Kisan , Vulnerable groups for, Agricultural workers for trainings and techniques related to farming etc. * Vulnerable groups are provided with a chance to share their opinion, concerns and plausible solutions to problems faced locally. Their voices are heard and they contribute to the local decision-making process. Women, especially, were provided with leadership roles, involved in community structures for contribution to decision making and for improved access and control over resources including access to information and technology. In addition, women are provided with opportunities of alternative livelihood that aim to provide them financial stability and power and control over resources at household level. * Women are part of DRR forums and they have their voice at district disaster forums. * Natural leaders from communities come to the front foot and represented their villages by leading VDMCs and UDMCs. * Govt. institutions like agriculture, Social welfare and DDMAs are more active and responsive with having an effective DDMP plan and they are having regular meetings to keep DRR forum open for all. |
| **Partnership & Cooperation** |  |  |  |  |  | The coordination and cooperation with the local organization and government agencies were assessed during the discussion. Majority of the local particularly men were found aware of the communication and meeting with local administration. HANDS has developed their capacity regarding this aspect, and they understand the significance.  There is regular communication and coordination with line departments. The relevant personnel have knowledge of project initiatives, and they are provided with a platform for coordination and updates. As an initial step towards partnership, the findings do reflect a sense of cooperation and openness at their end.     * Also, the community is aware of the role and responsibilities of line department; they have information on the respective contact details so that in case required the community can directly reach the authorities for support. * Improved capacity and strengthened systems of the line departments might further help in enhanced support to communities in terms of early warning systems, disaster preparedness and planning and provision of commodities and other support as needed. However, there is still a vacuum that needs to be filled by the donor agencies and government initiatives at their own. Capacity in sense of planning, knowledge, skills and awareness level is increased. * How ever with resources govt. institution need to be enhanced. * All the partners like Resilience academy, PDMA, DDMA, Bakhabr Kissan, LHDP and HANDS etc. cooperation was limited during project. It may be more decreased after project ends., |
| **Effectiveness** |  |  |  |  |  | Effectiveness included community leadership and achievement of outcomes against objectives; the study findings reflect that one aspect that is capacity building is quite strong while the other aspect that is alternative livelihood option are still to be achieved as per the agreed terms. Therefore a light green color has been assigned. Community, with formal local structures have been provided with platform where they can collectively sit together, discuss the problems and share opinions without any discrimination. Women, minorities, youth and elders and persons with disability, everyone gets a chance to discuss and provide opinion. The community has started taking ownership of their issues and are leading their lives taking responsibility of the actions and decisions they make.   * Livelihood is broader area in building of resilient communities but for sustainability project duration and partner support is insufficient. it needs more resources and community ownership. |
| **Impact** |  |  |  |  |  | The project has impacted the overall community in many aspects, for instance if we look into the capacity building regarding Disaster Risk Reduction and its mitigation, the project can be rated successful as it has educate da wide portion of the same community.  Whereas as far as the service delivery and efficiency of the government organization is concerned, there are still gaps which needs to be addressed. Somehow, the coordination, connectedness and service delivery from the government end has been enhance. Nevertheless, still there is a long way to go.  If we look into the other major component of the intervention which was creating opportunities for the alternative livelihood and introducing climate smart agriculture practices. So in that area, the organization has only successfully introduced the kitchen gardening practices at a very small scall, it might be having good impact over the community lives   * Alternative Livelihoods (AL) being a key component of the project were not properly addressed during the project implementation, as the local were in great need. Project scope was limited and need was huge. * Community does know about the MFI offering loans however a major fraction shared reservation regarding loan schemes as it involves interest and a long cumbersome process which is a key hindrance to access loan by communities. In such case where the community is hesitant taking loan, the linkage with MFI wont be of help thus limiting the project impact in some ways. Nevertheless, some of the individuals, have obtained loans form the Banks and local NGO (SRSO). * Introducing Mobile phones, Ba-Khabbar Kissan App and whats group is innovative idea and it has changed the landscape of communication in communities of village. It has not only connected all the communities with weather station to get instant updates but now it is a wider source of information sharing, discussions and raise voice. Oxfam and hands were of the view that despite having water availability issue for the agricultural activities, they introduce a water efficient agricultural demo plot. However, without have proper research study in background of the technological introduction, it has negatively impacted the overall productivity. * Community led structures, women empowerment and inclusivity in general is one key result brought by project. The sense of ownership among all groups, sensitization towards each other’s’ needs and mutual trust is identified is one key aspect that might have long lasting impact even after project’s * The DRR forums and local authorities are found to be on way of improved planning and are showing cooperation with local structures. It is important for a long-lasting impact that local authorities are provided with capacity building opportunities along with improved systems and processes for institutional strengthening thus ensuring change at a larger level |
| **Sustainability** |  |  |  |  |  | Considering the project objectives and results, the sustainability factor is largely dependent on capacity building of both community and government stakeholders, enhanced community capacity through community led structures, awareness of role of various line departments and coordination of community with government through some forum and sensitization at community level regarding their own roles and responsibilities.  Formation of the VDMCs and UDMCs and its strengthening is a key to the sustainability of the interventions. However, the UCMs and VDMCs cannot perfume well standalone unless there is robust coordination and connectedness with the local governments and obviously the international donor agencies.  Their periodic trainings, and personal capacity building, keep them up to date regarding the new agricultural technique, the level of hazards they are exposed to and risk associated with the hazards should be communicated to them. the local partner organization HANDS must ensure regular spot check and conducted bi-annual refresher meeting with communities, to maintain a good relation. It is evident from the fact that none of the project survived once the donor agencies has stop funding for the intervention when there is a lack of ownership amongst the community. lack of ownership in the local areas was observed because they have rarely managed their assets distributed, neither the demo plot. As the solar powered system observed at one demo plot was nonfunctional because the switch board was broken down.   * Community has been provided with a platform where they get together and mutual discuss issues for future planning and preparation to combat with the issue faced. There is a sense of trust and inclusion which is acknowledged across board * Government department officials are trained and have started disseminating information at various platforms. People also have knowledge of line departments and relevant roles to access them when required. |

1. https://home.kpmg/pk/en/home/insights/2020/05/impact-of-covid-19-on-pakistan-economy.html [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/357876/climate-change-profile-pakistan.pdf>; <http://www.pmd.gov.pk/rnd/rnd_files/vol8_Issue16/8_Vulnerability%20of%20the%20Indus%20Delta%20to%20Climate%20Change%20in%20Pakistan.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.dfat.gov.au/development/topics/development-issues/building-resilience/humanitarian-preparedness-and-response/Pages/humanitarian-prepraredness-and-response [↑](#footnote-ref-3)