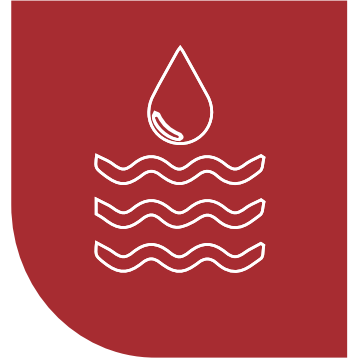




ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION-RDF**





 A. 50, Sindhi Muslim Cooperative Housing Society, Qasimabad, Hyderabad.
 Tel: 92-22-2102702-3
 Fax: 92-22-2102704
 www.rdfoundation.org.pk

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1. Foreword

It is our immense pleasure to present you the annual report 2021 along with financial statement, which highlights the milestones RDF has achieved in the year 2021 following its mission of innovating social solutions and building social institutions with research based and community-led approach. It was the year when everyone was struggling to come back to normal life after pandemic, whereas still the adverse effects of COVID-19 pandemic were visible among different groups of society. RDF continued its response to mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic by providing food and nutrition support, WASH facilities and public awareness about COVID-19 prevention measures and mobilizing communities for vaccination.

Realizing the fact that success is found on partnership, in the year 2021, we came into agreements with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) and extended MOU with UN ITC for expansion of GRASP program in 12 districts of Sindh. We also partnered with Welthungerhilfe (WHH) for a strategic initiative of skilling youth in coastal districts of Sindh.

In the year 2021, we continued to consolidate women's social and political leadership through Self Help Approach and institutionalize the women's groups into federations to ensure sustainability of the project. Our commitment to ensure a resilient community and eco-friendly world was fulfilled through solar electrification of houses, girls' schools and health facilities that has not only addressed the needs of drought-affected communities in terms of provision

of electricity and alternative livelihoods, but also reduced the consumption of fossil fuels.

Climate Resilient WASH Program was continued to improve an access of the disaster-prone communities of district Sanghar to safe, sustainable and equitable WASH services. WASH program for schools and hospitals have provided lavatory units, hand washing stations, drinking water facilities to make sure students seek education and patients get medical services in a safe and healthy environment.

RDF's Education program was the reason behind the rising enrollment of children in schools which was achieved due to improved school conditions, conducive learning environment and well trained teachers.

Ultimately our work is mainstreaming innovative and equitable solutions to social issues and changing the lives of climate sensitive communities in Sindh province of Pakistan. We wholeheartedly recognize and thank the diligent efforts of beneficiary communities, RDF team, donors, Government departments and all supporters for their consistent support to RDF that let us keep contributing our share for bringing about an enduring change in the lives of people. We pledge to work with same zeal with all of our supporters for the social, economic and political empowerment of disaster-prone communities in Sindh, Pakistan.

Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri
Chairman BoD

Ashfaque A. Soomro
Executive Director



2. Year 2021 in limelight

• Projects On-going:	15
• Project launched:	04
• Project Completed:	07
• Villages benefited in year 2021:	407
• Total Beneficiaries in year 2021:	180,997

Beneficiaries Regular Program



Beneficiary Population



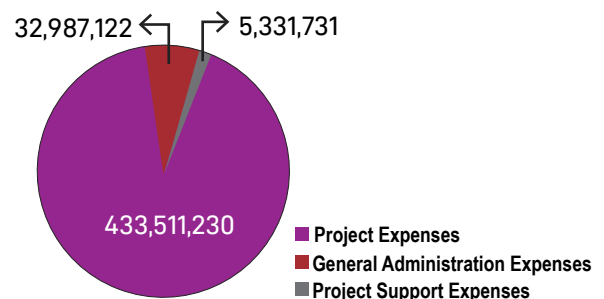
Beneficiaries of COVID-19 Response

• Girls:	16,199
• Boys:	19,678
• Women:	30,990
• Men:	36,770



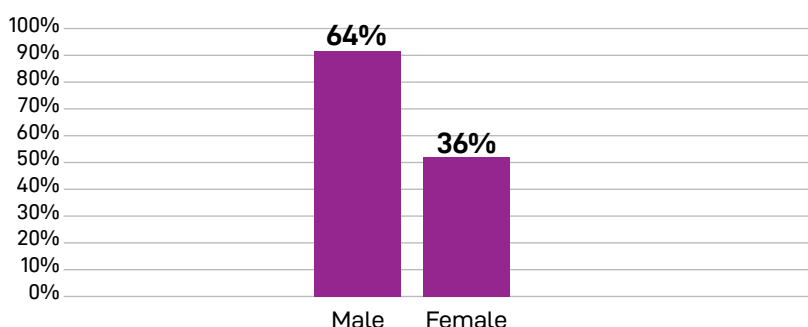
Financial Portfolio in PKR during the year 2020-21

Project Expenses	433,511,230
General Administration Expenses	32,987,122
Project Support Expenses	5,331,731



Staff Strength

Male:	91 (64%)
Female:	51 (36%)
Total staff:	142



3. Partnerships and Program outreach in 2021

MOU Signing with UN ITC

RDF has inked MoU with Growth for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress-GRASP- ITC, at Karachi on 15th October 2021. ITC GRASP and RDF will work together to improve competitiveness of women led rural SMEs in 12 districts of Sindh in selected value chains in horticulture and livestock sectors.



Launching of Project on 'Skill Development for Strengthening the Socio-economic Resilience of Youth'

RDF and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) have signed an agreement in the month of December 2021 to implement a four years program for the youth in districts Thatta, Sujawal, Badin and Jamshoro to build their socio-economic resilience through market driven employable skills. The project is

co-financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.



MOA Signing with PPAF

RDF signed Memorandum of Agreement with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) in a ceremony held in Islamabad on 14th October 2021 to implement EU-ITC GRASP project's rural mobilization and access to finance components in Thatta, Sujawal and Tando Muhammad Khan districts of Sindh province to promote business opportunities for MSMEs in GRASP focused value chains.

Village Outreach

Program has expanded to **407** villages in 2021



4. Our Commitment

RDF has been supporting communities in rural areas of Sindh province to address challenges of food security, unemployment, quality education, women empowerment, environment and disaster management at local level through community institutions and stakeholder engagement process.

Key Features of Our Work

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Follow all national policies, rules and regulations in operations | 6. Maintaining dignity at work |
| 2. Zero tolerance to malpractices and disciplinary matters | 7. Transforming learning and program efficacy |
| 3. Resource efficiency and timely completion of targets | 8. Protection of the rights of vulnerable people |
| 4. Respect to environment and cultural norms while execution | 9. Accountable to stakeholders |
| 5. Transparency and delegation of authorities | 10. Active stakeholders engagement |



5. Agriculture and Livelihood Program

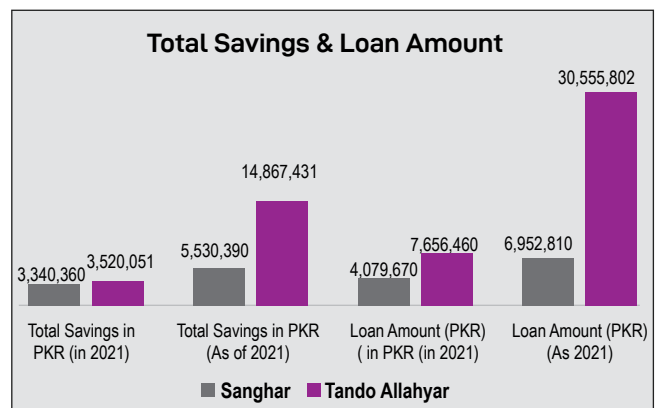
5.1. Institutionalizing Women's Self Help Groups

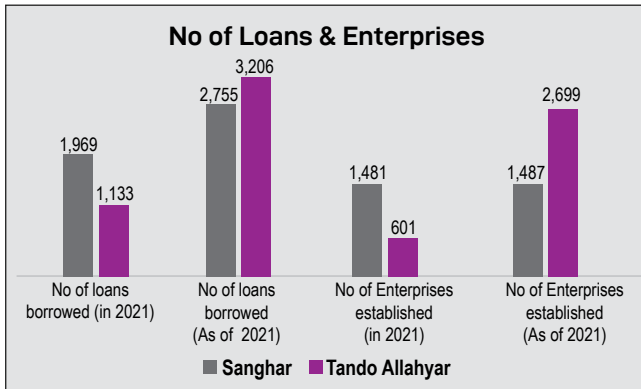
The women empowerment project through self help approach is successfully being implemented in District Tando Allahyar and Sanghar to empower women in order to improve their and their family's well-being on self- help basis. Self Help Approach is a right based approach which follows a bottom-up strategy to enhance peoples' existing capabilities and strengths. It does this by enabling them to participate in decision-making at the household, community, and macro level and to lift themselves out of poverty. In year 2021, following three projects were continued:

1. Sustainable Women Empowerment in Tando Allahyar
2. Women Empowerment through Self Help Groups, District Tando Allahyar
3. Child-focused Community Development with Self Help Approach, District Sanghar

Throughout the year, the project focused on institutionalizing women self-help groups into higher level umbrella organization such as Cluster Level Organizations (CLAs) and federation; which is the third and top most level

of this approach. Federation is formed when 8 Cluster Level Associations (CLAs) are combined. Federation registers itself and obtains a legal identity which then takes on a critical role in the socioeconomic and political development of their regions and lobby for policy development.





5.1.2 Federation Formation and Institutional Strengthening

The 'Sartiyon Sujag' Federation and the 'Surhan' Federation has been formed in year 2021 in district Tando Allahayar. Federation members work to achieve their goals and extend institutional support to SHG and the community. Federation members have been motivated to improve their leadership skills through SHG training and stakeholder coordination meetings in order to play a strong role in the community. Members of the federation met with additional and deputy directors of the social welfare department Tando Allahayar to discuss the registration process and share the progress of the CLA. They have also submitted funding request applications to different stakeholders and received funds from them, they celebrated different women events. Federation members submitted income proposals to non-profit organizations and received funds which they utilized for their business.

federation in district Tando Allahayar, to make participants understand the objectives, networking, features of federation including roles and responsibilities. Through this training federation members formulated their vision, set goals, and developed action plans to achieve their goals. They also acquired skills and knowledge about advocacy and networking.

A day long exposure visit of the members was also organized to Women's Agriculture Development organization (WADO) in Khairpur Mir's. Federation members learnt about new technologies being used in agriculture and for value addition of bananas and dates. They also visited small businesses of relevant products.



Bakery Training and Market Exposure Visit of Women



5.1.2A Training of Women Federation Members

Three days training on federation management was conducted for the office bearers of women

Self-help groups (SHGs) members in Tando Allahayar were given one-month training on preparing bakery products. 30 trainees received the bakery items making training. Market exposure visits of trainees were also organized at Hyderabad where trainees got familiar with

various bakery related items/accessories and their prices. The trainees have also started establishing home-based bakeries and are earning through it.

"I have attended one-month long bakery training along with 17 women participants in which we have learnt to prepare some bakery items including cakes and various types of biscuits. We are hopeful to earn good income by starting bakery business at village level. I'm very thankful to RDF for facilitating us with this wonderful training."

Ghulam Sakina, SHG member and Bakery Trainee, Village Jalal Thebo

Women Entrepreneurs Training on Digital Marketing and Linkages Development Meeting with MFIs

20 women entrepreneurs of Tando Allahayar were provided with a customized training on Digital Marketing and their linkages with the micro finance institutions in Hyderabad. The trainees interacted with micro finance institutions and got familiarized with their process and products.



A Consultative Dialogue held with Female Community Livestock Extension Workers

RDF organized a consultative dialogue with female community livestock extension workers (CLEW), attended by total 14 women CLEWS. The agenda of the consultative dialogue was to discuss the options for establishing women-led livestock market in Tando Allahayar. Female CLEWS shared the need of business for women in livestock and showed willingness to set up

women-based livestock mandi. RDF is taking an initiative of establishing livestock mandi for the women by the women in Tando Allahayar.



5.2. Strengthening Rural MSMEs in Horticulture and Livestock Sector

Growth for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress (GRASP) is a six-year project designed to reduce poverty in Pakistan by strengthening small-scale agribusinesses in two provinces: Balochistan and Sindh. It aims to support small and medium-sized enterprises in horticulture and livestock to become more competitive by making improvements at all levels of the value chain. GRASP is implemented by the International Trade Centre – the joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization – with active participation from local partners. The project is funded by the delegation of the European Union to Pakistan. RDF has been partnering with ITC since 2020.



Collaboration with UN ITC to Implement GRASP Program

After successfully implementing ITC's GRASP Covid-19 Emergency Response in 2020, RDF and UN ITC has extended cooperation to scale-up the GRASP project's intervention in 12 districts of Sindh with a special focus on outputs 2.2 and 2.4 of the project supporting women entrepreneurs, farmers, women led Business Support Organizations (BSO) which are working in Horticulture and Livestock sector, to connect to markets and improve their productivity and entrepreneurial skills. It aim to create gender-inclusive employment and income opportunities in the rural areas through targeted support to rural SMEs.

Both the organizations inked the MOU on 15th October 2021 in Karachi in a ceremony graced by the Minister Women Development Department GoS Ms. Syeda Shehla Raza, Vice Chancellor SAU Tando Jam Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri, key officials from the Government organizations, academia and civil society. Robbert Skidmore, Sector Chief UN ITC and Ashfaque Soomro, Executive Director RDF signed the MOU.



International Banking Day Celebration

International Banking Day was celebrated at Karachi in collaboration with GRASP, State Bank of Pakistan and First Women Bank Limited, to promote the SBP's agenda of 'Banking on Equality' and GRASP's target of improving rural women entrepreneurs' access to finance and banking services. Minister of Industries & Commerce Department, Government of Sindh- Mr. Jam Ikramullah Dharejo was the chief guest of the event, who while addressing the audience,

appreciated efforts of RDF and GRASP team for creating conducive business environment and making rural SMEs competitive in Sindh.

Ms. Shabnam Balouch -Provincial lead, GRASP Sindh, Mr. Ashfaque Soomro-ED RDF, Ms. Faiqa Naseem-Deputy Director Agricultural Credit & Microfinance Department, State Bank of Pakistan, Dr-Sahar Gul Gender Advisor GRASP Sindh, Ms. Samina Geti- VP & Head SME, First Women Bank Limited and Mr. Kapil Kumar from Sindh Enterprise Development, Government of Sindh spoke on the occasion. Three women entrepreneurs from Thatta district also shared their experience with GRASP and their success stories with the participants, that how they are selling their livestock and horticulture value-added products online.



Livestock Vaccination Campaigns

To enhance livestock productivity, RDF in collaboration with Govt of Sindh's livestock department and active participation of farmers, organized vaccination campaigns. Through the campaigns, total 7558 (Large 2786 and Small 4772) animals were vaccinated to prevent diseases, benefiting total 511 women and 311 men farmers. Awareness sessions were also provided to communities about the importance of livestock vaccination. Details of number and type of vaccinations are given below:

Vaccine	Small Animals	Large Animals
FMD	1,465	981
HSV		1,805
CCPP	1,223	
ETV	2084	
Total	4,772	2,786

Districts	No of Small Animals Vaccinated	No of Large Animals Vaccinated
Khairpur Mirs	1223	877
Mirpurkhas	357	142
Sanghar	1172	838
Sujawal	155	126
Tando Allaha-yar	616	402
Tharparkar	913	184
Thatta	336	217
Total	4772	2786



International Women’s Day Celebration



International Women’s Day 2021 was celebrated under GRASP in Karachi. Minister Women Development Mrs. Shehla Raza Shah inaugurated the event, whereas Minister Agriculture Govt of Sindh Mr. Ismail Rahu presided the event. Prof.

Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri VC SAU, Dr Abdul Raheem Soomro Secretary Agriculture, Ms Shabnam Baloch Provincial lead ITC , Wadeiri Nazoo, Tanzila Ume Habiba MPA, Mr. Mahmood Nawaz Shah, Mr. Hidayatullah Chadroo DG Agriculture, Waheeda Mahesar Director SZABIST, Dr Seher Gul, Farzana Shah GM SIDA and Mr. Ashfaque Soomro Executive Director RDF talked on the occasion. Women growers and entrepreneurs from various areas of Thatta, Khairpur, Tando Allahyar attended the event and presented their work to the guests.

Consultative meeting on ‘NGOs and CBOs COVID-19 Response Capacity Assessment’

A consultative meeting was held on 21st January 2021 with NGO leaders, experts, and relevant Government Officials in Karachi to discuss findings of the NGO, CBOs COVID response capacity assessment. RDF conducted an assessment of the response capacity of NGOs, CBOs to COVID emergency under GRASP. Participants discussed the role, capacity gaps and challenges in COVID emergency response.



Consultative Workshop on Safer Business Operations Amid COVID-19



A consultative workshop on safer business operations amid COVID-19 was held with the assistance of ITC GRASP at Karachi. Representatives of chambers of commerce, LSOs and entrepreneurs from Khairpur, Thatta and Karachi participated. ITC, RDF, State Bank officials talked on the occasion and discussed COVID spread causes and how to perform safer functions. The participants emphasized on enabling policies and environment for the competitive MSMEs.

Signing of Financing Agreement with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)

RDF signed a financing agreement with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) in a ceremony held on 14th October 2021 in Islamabad to implement European Union funded GRASP project's rural mobilization and access to finance components in three districts of Sindh to promote business opportunities for MSMEs focusing GRASP value chains. PPAF Chief Executive Mr. Qazi Azmat Isa and RDF Executive Director Mr. Ashfaq Soomro signed the agreement in presence of PPAF and EU GRASP project team.



Provincial Seminar on Improving Tomato Value Chain

A daylong seminar was organized by RDF together with GRASP ITC in Karachi on 1st April 2021 at Karachi to discuss tomato value chain challenges and prospects, surface the perspective of growers and delineate its economic potential in Sindh. The seminar was attended by tomato growers, farmer representatives, government officials,

academicians, entrepreneurs, chamber of commerce and CSO representatives. Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri, Vice Chancellor Sindh Agriculture University presided the seminar. Eminent economist Dr. Qaiser Bangali, Farmer Leader Mahmood Nawaz Shah, GRASP ITC Lead for Sindh Ms. Shabnam Baloch, Mr. Ashfaq Soomro, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ismail Kumbhar, Mr. Mahboob Ul Haq CEO Sindh Enterprise Development Fund, Mr. Mohsin Azam Soomro of GRASP ITC and Dr. Tahmina of SAU Tando Jam and talked on the issues in tomato production and discussed value chain prospective. Speakers identified major production including high seed cost, poor seed quality, lack of disease and harsh climate resistant hybrid seed varieties, incidence of severe pest attack due to low quality pesticides, lack of proper training regarding production technologies and labour shortages particularly at the harvesting time. It badly affects farmers and the markets. Therefore, there is a need to look into this issue with a value-chain approach and find out ways to protect growers and marketers' interests.

"Since I grew up I saw myself as a farm girl, and throughout my life I lived like this—I know no other identity. Farming is in my soul; I cannot imagine a single day without seeing my land". Buwa Lashari



5.3. Spate Irrigation Management

Spate Irrigation Management project on the Nai Gaj in Dadu district is in progress, which aims to improve equitable distribution and management of floodwater through building partnerships between upstream and downstream farmers and

strengthen their crop management practices. Project is building capacities of farmers for maximizing business potential, marketability of the minor crops that grow on Nai (stream flows). Following were the key project achievements during the year 2021:



Training of Farmers on Leadership Skills for Effective Water Management

Two days training was organized at Hyderabad in which 20 members of Farmer Organizations participated. Farmers were oriented on their role in the spate irrigation management and how to ensure the fair distribution of water for agriculture among head, middle and tail-end users. Farmers also paid a learning visit to Sindh Agriculture University Tando Jam and Agriculture Model Farm at Tando Soomro near Tando Allahyar to observe best and sustainable farming practices.



Block Plantation of Acacia Nilotica

RDF supported 10 local farmers to establish plots of block plantation/Hurri. Farmers were provided

with seed, saplings and training to grow this innovative, cost effective method of cropping to manage uncultivated lands, where usually crop does not survive due to water scarcity.

Livestock Vaccination

Project team with the support of livestock department Govt of Sindh conducted vaccination campaigns in the target villages to protect livestock against seasonal diseases. Through the campaign in 24 Villages, total 4,632 large and small animals were vaccinated.



Support to Strengthen the Infrastructure



Significant achievement of the project has been the farmer led repair of the retention dyke (earthen embankment) locally called as Bhawal Jo Ghando, which falls at the tail end of Nai Gaj which enabled farmers utilize water gushing down from the streams and grow crops. The embankment has length of approximately 1.5 kilometers with an average height of 10 feet.

It diverts water to irrigate thousands of acres of land, and if it rains adequately, it can also recharge the groundwater.

Introducing new Crops in the Area

For the first time in the area, RDF project team has introduced Rhodes Grass. Through the training and seed support, farmers have cultivated it on 6 Acres of land at village Mazar Khan Bhurgari.



Installation of Deep-bore Hand pumps

Project has installed 2 Deep-bore Hand pumps in the area to address drinking water needs of the farming communities. 100 families are now getting drinking water round the clock in two remote villages.



5.4 Lecture on “Poverty Alleviation Challenges and Opportunities for Resource Poor Class of Sindh” By Dr. Kaiser Bengali

RDF has organized a lecture on “Poverty Alleviation Challenges and Opportunities for Resource Poor Class of Sindh” for the youth, students, civil society representatives and University faculty members. Renowned Economist and policy advisor Dr. Kaiser Bengali delivered lecture at Hyderabad. The event was attended by more than 70 academicians, civil society representatives, media persons and students. Dr. Kaiser elaborated key aspects of poverty and focused on alleviating poverty through strategic ways. He emphasized on the need to establish Rural Growth Centers, through which resources can be consolidated to address the root causes of poverty.



6. Community Resilience Building Program Achievements

6.1. Lighting up Lives through Solar Energy

RDF in the year 2021 implemented a solar energy project in District Sanghar and Tharparkar to ease the lives of disaster prone people and mitigate climate change. Houses, Home-based production units, dug wells, schools and health facilities were solar powered with an innovative design and approach. Major achievements of the project are as under:

House Electrification in off-grid villages

750 households were provided with solar power in 25 off-grid villages of Tharparkar and Sanghar districts. Each house was equipped with solar power system and created healthy environment for the whole family especially children and women. Installed system at household level enable people to charge cellular phones, radio and other equipment to be well informed of the early warning systems and be connected with the communities service providers. Beneficiaries were oriented on the operation and maintenance of the solar power system and are now capable to resolve the basic issues by their own.

"We are very happy to have "SHAMSI Bijli" (local name of Solar Energy) in our house which has brightened up our life and now my mother can cook easily at night as previously she always had to complete all such household chores before the sunset. But now she can do some other work at night too. I can also study and complete my school work at night as well"

Teerath, a 12 years old boy belonging to a deserted area of district Tharparker.



Solar Powered Water Supply

In desert area where ground water is used for drinking purpose and dug wells are the only source of water, RDF selected 10 villages where communities were facing difficulty to access safe drinking water. Solar submersible water



pumps were installed on these deep dug wells and constructed elevated water collection tanks. A total of 3,485 people are taking water from these dug-wells.



Govt. Schools Provided with Solar System

10 secondary and higher secondary girls schools were equipped with heavy duty solar power system, thus created learning environment for 5,375 students including 2072 girls. Provision of solar electrification to schools has resulted in improved attendance. Solar power system has also improved the water and sanitation system in these schools.



Healthcare Center Provided with Solar System

Solar energy system has been installed in 8 health care facilities, including one gynecological ward & Trauma center at Taluka hospital Khipro, Sanghar were equipped with heavy solar power system. Six (6) of these facilities are already connected to the electricity grid network. Those connected to grid network face an average power outage of 5-8 hours per day. Power supply disruptions affect the working of the health care

facilities, particularly the working of equipment such as lights, fans, ultra sound machines. Diesel and Petrol generators as backup are costly and require heavy maintenance. It has made a significant difference in the health services, as the operation-theater and equipment for C-section operations are being utilized to provide better health services to the mother and children. The labor rooms, checkup rooms are improved through solar powered lights.



Solar Powered Income Generation Units



Under this project, 25 women were given solar powered mini flour mills, solar powered sewing machines, spices grinding machines and ice cream makers/Solar powered fridges for income earning purposes in rural areas. Women were provided with basic operations management training and the kits for maintenance.

The solar installation for enterprises was very useful, particularly for flour mills. It has saved time, cost and energy for the villagers, who otherwise would have to travel to nearest town for getting flour. All the entrepreneurs contributed towards the development of their

enterprise. Additionally, the support to income earning enterprises has created a diversity of occupations.

"I have been provided with a solar powered flour mill and I'm looking forward to expand my business further for securing my children's future. My harsh life never allowed me to continue my education but now I can see my dream to provide good education to my children is coming true through my improved livelihood."

Hajiyani. 38 years old small entrepreneur from District Sanghar.

Youth Trained as Solar Electrician

The project has trained 30 unemployed youth in electrical wiring, and installation and maintenance of solar energy systems. All the trained youths belong to the selected villages where solar energy systems has been developed and an agreement reached with the community organization to employ them on regular basis for operation and maintenance of the installed systems. They are also extending their services in sub-urban areas as well and earning their livelihood.



Mitigating Climate Change; Avoidance of CO₂

The project has not only addressed the needs of climate-affected communities, such as the need of electrification of homes, alternative livelihoods, functional WASH facilities and lighting for education and health facilities, but also reduced the consumption of fossil fuels (diesel, paraffin and wood) and it is mitigating

climate change. It is calculated that the project would mitigate 33217.4 thousand pounds of CO₂ emissions through its life period of 25 years. The mitigation values are calculated as per guidelines of IPCC.

6.2. Food Security and Drought Mitigation Project, Tharparkar

This project is in progress to build capacities of drought-affected communities in 30 villages of Taluka Dahili in District Tharparkar, to mitigate droughts impacts through resilient agriculture, livestock management and ensure food and nutritional security among the targeted population. Children awareness and their active engagement in climate change, disaster management and child-friendly schooling are also the key interventions of the project. Following were the achievements of project in year 2021:



Improving Food Security and Reducing Malnutrition

Project has established two plant and vegetable nurseries which are producing the seedlings of vegetables, includes brinjal, onion, chillies, tomato and trees of neem, acacia, moringa.

The nurseries are also providing the seedling/ seeds of organic vegetables without any pest and fertilizer to the respective village as well as surrounding areas.

During the year 2021, around 1,600 women have established their kitchen gardens and they are now getting fresh vegetables from their kitchen gardens. They regularly maintain them. Whereas trees raised in nurseries, were distributed to the people during the plantation campaign by the project and beneficiary community organizations. Additionally, people of vicinity are purchasing the indigenous trees, especially the Phog and Gugral (a medicinal plant) from these nurseries.



Tree Plantation

9,200 fruit and fodder trees were planted during the year 2021. The tree saplings include Chicku, Shesham, Guava, Pomegranate, Jujube, Neem, Moringa, Acacia, and Kandi. It is worth to note that 3,726 local jujube trees were grafted by the youth who were trained in grafting skills, and the survival rate of all grafted trees is almost 90%. Looking at the success of grafting, the trend is increasing in project area.



Livestock Vaccination and Deworming

The livestock vaccination campaigns were organized in collaboration with District Livestock Department, Government of Sindh. The department provided vaccines whereas the project's trained Community the Livestock Extension Workers (CLEWs). They took active part in the campaigns together with community organizations. Through these campaigns, 49,745 small animals were vaccinated for ETV and 57,345 small animals were vaccinated for CCPP. Sum 5,500 small animals were dewormed as well during these campaigns.



Rain Water Harvesting

The project has constructed total 200 rain water harvesting tanks in six villages, with the participation of community members. RDF provided construction material and cost of skills labour whereas unskilled labour work was carried out by the beneficiary community. One tank has the capacity to store 3400 litres of water. After having these tanks, 200 families are enabled to store drinking water that will be sufficient for four- five months for a family.



Schools Environment Clubs

During year 2021, members of School Environment Clubs in 30 schools participated in various climate change awareness, tree plantation, water conservation and children protection activities. It has greatly sensitized children, who become first and worst affectee of any disaster. Around 102 events of quiz competitions and a few learning visits were held, in which children enthusiastically participated.

One of the visit was made to a model school at Village Nohto of District Tharparkar, where students and teachers observed different teaching methods and video classes in AV room.



Awareness Raising Seminars on Climate Change

Two awareness raising seminars were organized for local community leaders, government officers, teachers, students and media to sensitize and educate them on the impacts of climate change and how a togetherness approach can mitigate them. Teachers and students of 08 schools also participated.



Missing Facilities to the Schools

To continue efforts for quality education and improving learning facilities in the schools, the project has provided furniture to 20 schools of Taluka Dahili. The furniture includes student benches, chairs and tables for teachers and

white boards. Swings were also installed for the children in 19 schools.



DRM Mechanisms, Coordination and Linkages between Schools, Community Organizations and Authorities

To strengthen the collaborative DRR mechanisms at the local level, RDF team organized five Community Conferences wherein 396 community representatives, government officials from livestock, education, social welfare, agriculture extension departments of district Tharparkar, media personnel, student, teachers participated. These events provided a platform to all government, disaster management social structure, NGOs, civil society groups, business, academic, and other interested groups to know how people and communities are taking local measures to address disaster issues, improving their relationships with service providers, government organizations to manage the risks.

Training of Community on Early Warning System

The project has organized five one day training events on early warning systems, wherein 131 members of the community organizations were trained on early warning mechanisms in local context as they can take precautionary measures to protect children and other community groups against the severe impacts of disasters. The training focused on early warning for Locust Attack, Pest Attack, Pest Management and Livestock disease breakouts in the wake of droughts or any extreme event.



7. Health, Water, Sanitation and Nutrition Program Achievements

7.1. Climate Resilient WASH Program in Sanghar

In its second year of execution, the project has progressed significantly and increased its outreach to another batch of 22 villages, falling in two Union councils of Sanghar district. It has benefitted approximately 14,560 individuals during the year 2021. The project is being executed with the support of line departments, including PHED, Health, Education, Social Welfare and District administration. Following were the key achievement made during the year 2021:

Water Quality Analysis



Using the in-house water quality testing laboratory, quality of 212 water samples were

checked. The samples were collected from the pre-selected sites for water schemes. Based on the results, locations for water schemes were finalized in partnership with community organizations. Besides, the services of the Public Health Engineering Department were also availed for cross-validation of in-house water testing.

Climate Resilient Solar Powered Water Supply Schemes in Sanghar



To address the issue of access to safe drinking water to communities in district Sanghar, two solar powered water supply schemes with the 6000-litre water storage capacity were installed in year 2021, at village Habib Bhambhro and Pir Bux Junejo. Each scheme has enough water



storage capacity for around 120 families. These two schemes are benefitting 1,260 individuals of two villages.

Installation of Hand-pumps for Drinking Water

In the year 2021, RDF in district Sanghar installed new hand-pumps and repaired the existing hand-pumps to be used by poor and vulnerable communities. A total of 25 feasible locations were selected where new hand pumps are installed with raised platforms and proper disposal of wastewater. Before installation, the water quality was checked as per WHO water quality standard. Population of 3,365 individuals of 16 villages getting drinking water from these hand-pumps. Also, in year 2021, RDF selected and repaired 25 dysfunctional hand pumps having hazardous conditions. These repaired hand-pumps are source of water for 3,357 individuals of 12 villages.

Three Affridev hand pumps (deep hand pumps) were also installed in two desert villages of Chotiyarion area, which are benefitting 290 individuals.



Rainwater Harvesting Tanks

50 rainwater harvesting tanks were constructed by the RDF WASH team, benefitting 82 families of four villages, in drought affected area of UC Chotiyarion.

Rehabilitation of Public Water Supply Scheme

Public Water Supply Scheme at village Gul

Hassan Sirewal was repaired by the RDF under CR WASH Program. The work includes installation of alum chamber and chlorination machine, repair of sump well and motor room, colour work of walls, earth filling and brick-pavement from the main gate to pump rooms and repair of associated infrastructure. The scheme is fully functional now and supplies the drinking water to 1,925 residents of village and surroundings.

The project has also rehabilitated a community water pond scheme at village Dongiryoon, which was dysfunctional, and people were using unsafe water directly from a watercourse. A slow sand filter is also installed on the scheme to remove the physical and biological contamination of water. The pond has capacity to store 25,250 gallons. Now after the repair of scheme potable water to 840 individuals is provided.



Low Cost Latrines in Villages



Following the PATS Approach, a total of 200 latrines were constructed in the villages

benefiting 2,506 individuals. It has eliminated open defecation practices in 26 villages. The model was a cost-sharing basis, under which beneficiaries constructed the walls and roof structure of the latrine and septic tank, while RDF provided the slabs, door, WC and the skilled labor assistance.

"After quitting open defecation and using latrines, I have observed a low risk of sickness in my children."

Bhero, a 55 years old man of district Sanghar

Global MHM Day Celebration and Training for Women

The Global Menstrual Hygiene Day was celebrated in Sanghar on 28th May 2021 at Basic Health Unit in Sanghar, in collaboration with PPHI. The aim was to create awareness of good practices of Menstrual Hygiene Management among adolescent girls and women. More than 90 women and adolescent girls attended the event and made a commitment and acknowledged "More Action and Investment in Menstrual Health and Hygiene Now" through the impression of full hand with fingers on the banner of commitment.

The participants also wore a menstruation bracelet which shows the 5 days of cycle in critical days, intending to understand and promote the importance of critical days of the month. Two training sessions for 50 adolescent girls and women in 13 villages were also imparted. These trainees then further disseminated information to their neighboring girls and women.



Hygiene Awareness and Training on Solid Waste Management:

Considering the issue of proper hygiene and lack of awareness, RDF team conducted 212 hygiene sessions attended by 5,362 individuals of target villages. The project has also organized five two-day training on Solid waste Management for 76 members of the Village Development Organizations, The training was focused on how to segregate the waste and make waste collection bins, what are the health hazards of solid waste and its link with the environment degradation. Demonstration of Reuse of solid waste through compost making at village level, was also part of training. Religious leaders were also engaged to promote hygiene and adequate sanitation practices in the light of religious education. Motivation sessions were held with 90 religious clerics from various areas of district Sanghar.

The community theatre groups also performed five theatres on good hygienic practices and COVID-19 awareness, which were attended by majority of the community members.

"Personal hygiene has never been my priority as I never knew the benefits of maintaining personal hygiene. But after attending these hygiene sessions, I equipped myself with good hygiene practices and now I'm regularly taking care of my personal hygiene."

Dhani, a 43 years old women of District Sanghar



Village Cleanliness Campaigns

To address communal level hygiene issues, RDF together with village organizations conducted village cleanliness campaigns in 22 villages of Sanghar. After campaigns, villagers prepared the plans for solid waste management and community hygiene. Tool kits were also provided to the community, so they could better implement their plans.



Celebration of Global Hand Washing and World Toilet Days

In the year 2021 Global Hand washing Day was celebrated on 15th October 2021 together with students, teachers and community activists at schools Government Girls High School Jhol and High Altaf Ali Rind, wherein more than 2000 boys and girls activity participated. Poster competition, speeches and demonstration of hand washing steps were organized by the students. World Toilet Day was also celebrated on 19th November 2021 in two schools and two villages, where awareness session on the use of toilet, and hazards of open defecation were conducted.



Plantation and Making Fuel Efficient Stoves

In the year 2021, total 13,650 saplings of local plant species were planted, which include Neem, Acacia nilotica, Moringa, Sukhchain, Silea Plant, Sheesham, Grafted Jujube, Amaltas and Gul Mohar. Under plantation drive, RDF also supported farmers to establish 06 plots of block plantation of Acacia Nilotica (Hurri) on 12 acres of land in UC Wali Muhammad Keerio. RDF demonstrated the making of Climate Resilient fuel efficient stove, through formal sessions to women, who later made 651 stoves in various villages.



Vegetable Gardening

A total of 100 women have established vegetable gardens in different villages of Sanghar. They were also provided with the training and tool kits to better manage the vegetable gardens in and around their houses.

7.2. Safe Drinking Water Project in Sanghar



In year 2021, RDF has completed safe drinking water Project in district Sanghar of Sindh. Under the project, 22 hand pumps with lead-lines were installed at the locations where rural people had no access to safe drinking water. Through the project, total of 7,450 individuals have now a dignified and easier access to water for their domestic needs. Beneficiary groups were also provided with the tool kits and training on maintenance of hand pumps.

7.3. WASH Program for Government Hospitals and Schools

WASH Facilities Improved in Hospitals

To contribute to government's efforts of increasing the COVID-19 vaccination coverage, RDF under an MOU has supported Health Department, Sanghar in increasing the coverage of vaccination and improved the conditions of COVID-19 Vaccination Centers. RDF improved WASH facilities, COVID-19 vaccination spaces/ rooms, waiting spaces and trauma facilities at Taluka Hospital Sinjhoru, Rural Health Centers Jhol, Kandiaru and Shahpur Chakar.



School WASH



The project has also improved WASH facilities with solar powered pumping systems in three schools; Govt. Higher Secondary School Syed Sibghatullah Shah Shaheed, Govt. Higher Secondary School Jhol and Govt. Primary School Khadahro, benefiting 4270 students and 116 school staff. The WASH package includes construction of lavatory block, installation of hand washing devices and an overhead tank with solar powered pumping machines.

7.4. 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

Seminar on 'End Violence Against Women, at Sanghar

RDF conducted a seminar with district stakeholders including District Management, women development and education department, Sanghar. One-day seminar was organized on the eve of 16 days of activism on 07 December 2021 at Government Girls Degree College Sanghar, which was attended by more than 120 girls, community women and district administration officials. The theme of the activity was "Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now".



Workshop on 16 Days Activism Against Gender Based Violence by Women Federation

The Women Federation-the Sartiyon Sujag, also organized a workshop on 16 days of activism, on December 9, 2021 at village Allah Rakhyo Pathan in district Tando Allahyar, which was attended by 110 young girls and women representatives who are members of women self-help groups. During the workshop, success stories were shared by girls and women who faced violence in their lives and

strive to overcome this social issue. The event was attended by Social Welfare Department, Livestock Department, Education Department, Women Protection Cell and Benazir Income Support Program's officials.

Awareness Campaigns: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, Tando Allahyar



Self Help Groups and Cluster Level Associations also held awareness campaigns at village level, through meetings, debates and speeches by women and girls. Messages on domestic violence, women rights and importance of education to overcome the violence issue were disseminated. More than 250 women and girls participated in these different events.

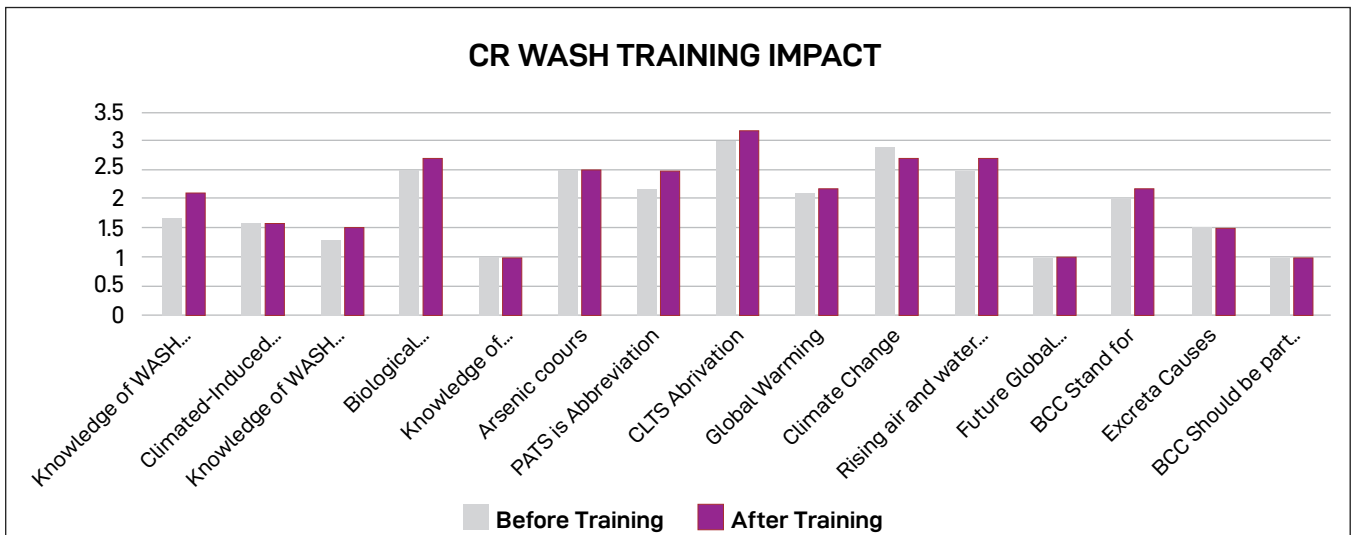
FM Radio Campaigns were also organized from 25 November to 10 December 2021 to raise awareness of general public on the 16 days of activism.

7.5 Capacity Building of WASH Actors and Health Department on Climate Resilient WASH

A three days training on Climate Resilient WASH was conducted in the month of December 2021 to orient WASH actors on how to design and implement climate resilient WASH programs in an effective methodological and strategic manner. It was divided into three modules;

1. Introduction to WASH amid Climate Change
2. Context Specific Water and Sanitation Technologies
3. Measuring WASH Impacts through Community Action Tools

15 professionals from various organizations, including the Public Health Department, UNICEF WASH Partners and RDF staff attended the training.



8. Quality Education and Learning Program

Children's Hope Project

To improve the quality of education in rural areas of Taluka Tando Adam district Sanghar, RDF continued its activities during 2021. The Self-Help Groups are taking efforts to ensure quality of education for their children. The project has been supporting School Management Committee and the education department in provision of missing facilities in 10 schools.

School Improvement

The condition of ten schools of taluka Tando Adam has been improved, by repairing the infrastructure, WASH facilities and providing the fixture and furniture. These schools are located in three UCs, Mitho Khoso, Mir Hassan Mari, and Kumb Dharon. Following improvement work has been done in these ten schools; rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities, whitewash and repair of class rooms, provision of furniture, and playground accessories like swings, glider and climber.



Increase of Enrolment

In the year 2021, as the result of school improvements and enrolment campaigns, RDF observed an increase in admission in these schools, as well as schools that were improved last year. Total 1,078 new enrolment, (745 boys and 333 girls) was increased, as compared to the previous year.

Teachers' Training and use of Learning Material

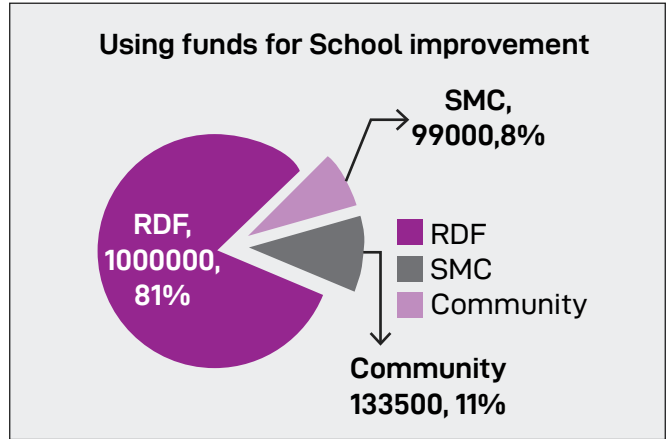
Attended by 25 teachers of 10-targeted schools participated, a series of training workshops, which was conducted for selected primary school teachers, aimed to expand their content-related knowledge of subjects including Math, Language and Science, for teaching the students of grades 1 to 5. For each subject, five days of long training sessions were undertaken. Learning Material to trained teachers was provided to train which is in use at 10 schools. The materials kit include language learning tools of Math, Science, Social Sciences, English and Sindhi.



School Management Committee (SMC) and Community's Share in School Improvement

The Schools Management Committees which are, local institutions for school operation and maintenance are proactively supporting the project interventions. As the school's improvements are made according to the school development plan, which is outlined by SMC, the SMC's funds are utilized as share. In the

year 2021, 8% amount is contributed from SMC funds. The community of respective villages and parents have also donated an amount equal to 11% of the total budget used for the improvement of ten schools.



Celebration of National and International Days and Co-curricular Activities

RDF supported students, staff and members of School Management Committees to celebrate Pakistan's Resolution Day on 23rd March, and International Disaster Risk Reduction Day on 13th October 2021 in schools. Students played dramas, tableaus and songs, read poetry, and delivered speeches to raise awareness focused on the themes of the day. In the year 2021, a total of 25 quiz competitions were also conducted on the subjects of English, General knowledge and Science, participated by student of grade 3, 4 & 5. All these events helped students to improve their interpersonal communication skills and self-confidence.



Education Promotion Seminar and Rallies:

One seminar on Education and two Education Promotion rallies were held in two UCs of Tando Adam. The purpose of the activity was to sensitize the community especially on the importance of girls' education.



COVID-19 Awareness and First Aid Training

Sessions on COVID-19 prevention, heatstroke prevention and hygiene were organized for the students in focused schools. Ten first aid training sessions were also held at selected schools, providing knowledge of basic concepts of first aid, dealing with emergencies such as injuries, cuts, fires, electric shocks, snakebites and faints. A total of 100 participants (Teachers and SMC members) attended this training. RDF Provided a kit for each representative of the target school.



Adult Literacy for the Women

To improve skills of communication, saving records maintaining, household expenditures, business records RDF in district Tando Allahyar and Sanghar run basic as well as advance literacy centres for rural women of SHGs. At Tando Allahyar a total of 390 women, who are also members of Self Help Groups, completed four months advanced literacy course, at 24 Literacy centres established in 24 villages. One TOT on advanced functional literacy conducted to train 24 teachers. All women who attended the courses are now able to read, write, calculate the expenses of their households and make the list of kitchen items.

While, in Sanghar, RDF run 5 literacy centers of basic level in Tando Adam Taluka, wherein 125 rural women-members of self help groups, have completed basic literacy course taught by local teachers. The teachers were hired by women on a self-help basis. After completing the course, these rural women are able to read, write and doing the simple arithmetic.



9. Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

RDF continued its COVID-19 emergency response program in different districts of Sindh and extended its support to vulnerable communities by providing food and nutrition support, WASH facilities and public awareness about COVID-19 prevention measures and mobilizing communities for vaccination. Details of RDF's emergency response to pandemic are mentioned below:

9.1 Strengthening Food and nutrition security and WASH services, to mitigate the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (SEWOH)

From January to April 2021, RDF implemented the WHH supported project "**Strengthening food and nutrition security and WASH services to mitigate the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic for particularly vulnerable people**" (SEWOH) in district Sanghar. The project provided relief in three major areas, food security, WASH and awareness about infection prevention measures. Following are the details of achievement made in the year 2021.

Food and Nutrition Support

Daily wagers, laborers, retailers whose income

sources were affected and families were at risk of food insecurity were supported by providing food ration packs. RDF distributed ration packs to 765 families in District Sanghar. A ration pack was designed on the food basket fundamentals as per food security cluster guidelines. In rural areas, where it is feasible, women were supported and guided to grow vegetables for better nutritional intake. A total of 300 women and PLWs were provided with vegetable seeds, tool kit and training to grow vegetables at the household level. The production helped improve nutritional intake of all family members.

Cash Grants: RDF also disbursed grants of PKR 7,800 to 800 families, with a majority of women-led families. The amount was used by these families for purchase of essential items like medicines, food and clothes.

Women Awareness on Nutrition and Health: 300 PLWs of Taluka Tando Adam, were provided awareness on 1,000-day Window of Opportunity (Services and Practices), focusing the topic of safe cooking, safe storing and using, appropriate measures of maternal health during pregnancy, vaccine during and after birth, feeding child in early days as well on child and mother health related topics in the wake of COVID-19.



COVID-19 Sensitive WASH

Distribution of Hygiene Kits:

To promote frequent hand washing and personal hygiene practices as a preventive measure, 1000 families were provided with hygiene kits. Each kit consisted of soaps, towels, sanitary clothes, a nail cutter and a bucket for water.

Public Hygiene:

In order to maintain public hygiene and reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread, 20 latrines were repaired at public locations, including public sector offices, schools and worship places, to be used by visiting public. Additionally, 23 new handwashing stations were also installed at hot spots such as healthcare centres and crowded public points.



Water and Sanitation:

To maintain domestic hygiene, 113 new latrines were constructed which are being used by 226 families/1,565 individuals. RDF also installed PWD friendly designed twenty new hand pumps. These hand pumps are now a source of safe drinking water to 341 families/2,024 individuals. Four public water supply schemes were also repaired to enhance the functionality in terms of improved quality and increased quantity of water. 8,205 individuals are being benefitted by these schemes.

Mass Awareness Campaign:

The mass awareness campaign was conducted for the general public to spread awareness messages on COVID-19, its prevention and to promote hygiene practices. Various mediums were used for effective message dissemination. Under this campaign, thousands of handbills and pamphlets were distributed and hundreds of banners and billboards were installed on various public spots. Awareness messages were also

broadcasted on FM-19 and FM-105 for almost two months period and public announcements were also done through mobile vans in the main cities of Tando Adam and Sanghar Tehsils.

9.2 COVID-19 Response Activities under Climate Resilient WASH, Sanghar

In the current pandemic situation, it was mandatory to work for reducing the risk of COVID-19 spread, and sensitize communities on the importance of COVID-19 vaccination. Therefore, in the year 2021, RDF has undertaken COVID-19 focused activities for the general public including rural communities in Sanghar District under Climate Resilient WASH project. Following are highlights of such actions.



Mass Awareness Campaign:

Awareness messages on COVID-19 vaccination were broadcasted in local languages on FM-105.2 Sanghar for a period of one month. Public announcement campaign was also conducted on prevention and control of COVID-19 and the importance of vaccination. Pictorial banners showing messages about the importance of vaccination were also fixed in villages. As a result of the mobilization and awareness campaign, the rural community of the project area got vaccinated by contacting the vaccination centers themselves.





Training on COVID Sensitive Hospital Waste Management: A two-day training on COVID Sensitive Hospital Waste Management was conducted with the collaboration of DOW University of Health and Science (DUHS) Karachi and Sindh Health Commission, to enhance capacity of doctors and front-line workers in reducing the spread of COVID-19. A total of 15 health professional staff including doctors selected by District Health Department Sanghar attended this training. The training topics were focused on hospital waste management and its linkage with COVID-19, waste collection, segregation, transportation and disposal, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in connection to COVID-19. The trainees also observed and learnt the waste management and IPC practices at DOW Hospital, Ojha Campus Karachi.

Vaccination Camps:

With the support of the District Health Department and PPHI team, the RDF team held COVID-19 mobile vaccination camps in 45 villages of District Sanghar, through which, a total of 6,070 people have been vaccinated. RDF also facilitated the health department by providing transport in reaching out to the remote villages of desert areas for COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.



Hands pumps: 10 new hand pumps were installed and 10 existing hand pumps were repaired at public points, at Muhalla level (cluster of houses) in-front of the mosques, in schools, and bus stops. These twenty units are being used by 2,980 individuals.

9.3 Humanitarian Response

Distribution of Ration Packs to Balochistan Earthquake Affected People

Keeping pace with its humanitarian response, RDF extended its relief support to Balochistan earthquake victims by sending Ration packs from Hyderabad. The ration package for one month period was provided to 150 families in Harnai in collaboration with a local NGO of Balochistan Kuchlak Welfare Society.

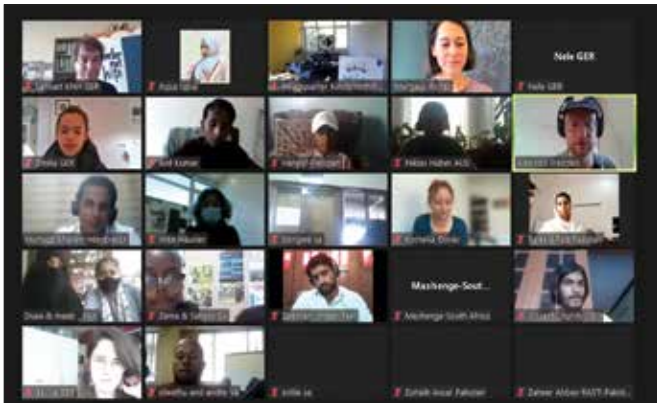
Repair of Public Toilets: To improve the hygiene conditions at public spots and for reducing the risk of COVID-19 spread, 38 public toilets were repaired and were made functional at 12 different locations. These toilets are mainly at public points like hospitals, schools, and offices of government line departments. Along with the repair of toilets, the handwashing stations, having a set of 2 -3 wash basins, were also installed.



10. Collaborations, Networking and Participation

Earth Pale Blue Dot, We Will Fail You Not! International Youth Conference

Young Climate Activists of RDF actively participated in 7 days long Kindernothilfe International Youth Conference, virtually held from 24th September to 8th October 2021. RDF was Co-organizer of this event and it was the first time that young members of RDF's environment clubs of Sanghar and Tharparker gained an international exposure and got an opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with the youth of Germany, South Africa and Austria. Our participants contributed to their fullest and provided a creative impetus against climate change in three amazing workshops: Lyrical lyrics video workshop, song workshop and game workshop.



Participation of Youth at COP26- Side Events



Young climate activists represented RDF at the United Nations Climate Change Conference UK 2021 from the German pavilion. The conference

was organized by the Federal Government of Germany that recognized the contribution and participation of non-state actors in the climate change dialogue by ensuring the participation of non-state actors, which are working in the spheres of environment, science, development, industry, trade unions, municipalities and youth. The young participants from Pakistan shared their contributions in the fight against climate change and future actions to mitigate its impacts.

Valuing Water: Seminar on World Water Day

RDF in collaboration with Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and Sindh Agriculture University Tando Jam marked World Water Day 2021 at the university under theme "Valuing water". This event was aimed at reaching out to all the stakeholders in finding solutions to water problems through cooperation and unity in action. A large number of water sector researchers, experts, faculty, civil society representatives, rural farming community and students attended the seminar.

The Vice Chancellor of the Sindh Agriculture University, Dr. Fateh Muhammad Marri chaired the seminar. The speakers discussed about the status of water in Pakistan, linking it with human life, agriculture, livestock and overall ecosystem. Considering increased shortage of water in future, the speakers urged upon sustainable use of water in all areas of life to avoid any crisis in coming days.



MOA Signing with PPAF

RDF has signed an agreement with Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) in a ceremony held in Islamabad on 14th October 2021 to implement EU-funded GRASP Project in three districts of Sindh to promote business opportunities for MSMEs focusing GRASP value chains. PPAF Chief Executive Mr. Qazi Azmat Isa and RDF Executive Director Mr. Ashfaq Soomro signed the agreement in presence of PPAF and ITC project team.

RDF has inked MoU with Growth for Rural Advancement and Sustainable Progress-GRASP- ITC, at Karachi on 15th October 2021. ITC GRASP and RDF will work together to improve competitiveness of women led rural SMEs in 12 districts of Sindh in selected value chains in horticulture and livestock sectors. Chief Sector and Enterprise Competitiveness ITC Mr. Robert Skidmore and Executive Director RDF Mr. Ashfaq Soomro signed the MOU. On the occasion, Minister of Women Development Sindh Ms. Syeda Shehla Raza, VC SAU TandoJam Dr Fateh Marri, Provincial Lead ITC, Ms. Shabnam Balouch, Renowned Economist Dr. Kaiser Bengali, Gender Advisor ITC Dr. Sahar Gul also talked on the event.



MOU Signing with GRASP - ITC:

WHH Partnership Workshop



RDF Team participated in Four days Partnership Workshop held at Islamabad, in October 2021, by WHH Pakistan. Program Manager-RDF delivered the presentation on 'Climate Compatible Development: Technology Driven Program Design and Implementation'. On the last day of the event, RDF also showcase the products in Partnership Bazar, especially the IEC material developed on Food Security & Nutrition, under WHH Projects.

Celebration of International Day of Rural Women 2021

RDF and Sindh Commission on the Status of Women jointly celebrated International Day of Rural Women on November 9th, 2021 in Tando Allahyar under the theme of "Rural women cultivating good food for all". More than 300 rural girls, women and social activists participated in the program. Mai-Bakhtawar award was presented to the potential women. They were also given cash prize of PKR. 10,000. Ms. Nuzhat Shireen, Chairperson of Sindh Commission on Status of Women was the chief guest of the event.

Participation in Farm Advisors Capacity Building Course in Lahore

RDF staff members Mr. Moula Bux, Team Leader and Dr. Shafqat Hussain, Livestock Officer participated in series of three days 'Farm Advisors Training Workshop' organized by University of Veterinary and Animal Science Lahore, held on 02-03-2021 to 04-03-2021 in Lahore. The second workshop was held from 24-11-2021 to 26-11-2021 at the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore.



PCP Delegation Visited RDF

Delegation of Pakistan center for Philanthropy (certification authority) visited RDF Head office, field office and project villages of Tando Allahyar on 15th September 2021 to observe quality work of RDF, governance, transparency, effectiveness of project implementation and positive impacts on community. Delegates met with the members of self help groups and had a dialogue with them.



11. Research and Knowledge Management Work of RDF in 2021

RDF has a sound system for capturing, storing, sharing and effectively managing the learning, knowledge resources and research activities of the organization and share with wider audience.

Research Studies Completed by RDF During the Year 2021 are Listed as Under:

1. Action Research on Hurri Plantation: Impacts and Challenges
2. Impacts of COVID-19 on Primary and Secondary Education in Sindh
3. Ground Water Quality assessment of Sanghar, Mirpurkhas and Umerkot
4. Contamination of Arsenic in Ground Water in District Sanghar
5. COVID Impacts on Small Enterprises in Sanghar and Tando Allahyar districts
6. Survey on Functionality of Government R.O Systems in Tharparkar Districts
7. Conjunctive Use of Water in Mirpurkhas
8. Mapping of Khoya Production and Market in Thatta District
9. Nutrition Status of PLWs and Children in Thar (Clinical Research in our project area)

Evaluations, Position Papers and Status Papers Conducted, Compiled and Launched in the Year 2021, as Listed as Under:

1. Status Paper on Tomato Production and Price Control System in Sindh
2. Final Evaluation of Lighting Up Lives Through

3. Solar Energy Project
3. Mid Term Evaluation of S.H.A Tando Allahyar Project
4. Final Evaluation of Climate Resilient Livelihoods Project Sanghar
5. Case Studies Documents of S.H.A Project Tando Allahyar
6. Video Documentary on Solar Powered Water Supply Schemes in Sanghar
7. Video Documentary on Lighting Up Lives Through Solar Energy project
8. RDF Newsletters

Staff Training on Research Methodology held at Sukkur IBA University

RDF always looks forward to enhance its employees' skills and capacity for improved performance and engagement through different training programs. RDF organized a three-day training on "Fundamentals of Research Methodology" for its staff, in collaboration with Department of Business Administration and Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), Sukkur IBA university. The training was undertaken by the staff involved in designing, implementing and analysing research impacts. The training mainly focused on action research and impact assessment to equip RDF staff with research insights. Trainees were introduced with online innovative tools for ease in research and report writing.



12. Media Coverage of RDF's Interventions in 2021



Speakers urge investment for tomato growers

Despite bumper crops each year, Sindh's farmers suffer due to price volatility

OUR CORRESPONDENT KARACHI

Experts, farmer representatives and civil society discussed the volatility of tomato prices and production issues and called for more investment in the sector at a seminar organised on Thursday by the Research and Development Foundation (RDF) and the Growth for Rural Advancement

agriculture production and market issues. Poverty can be alleviated in rural areas through market integration and development of agri-hubs, he said. While the Sindh government has to be committed to implement the Sindh Poverty Reduction Strategy 2019, the private sector should also come forward and contribute to the development of markets that are accessible to farmers, he added.

Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tando Jam Vice Chancellor Dr Fateh Mami said maximum investment should be brought into the agriculture sector to fill market gaps. New seed

For every development project there should be provision of re-teach funds, stressed Dr Mami. He emphasised that the availability of technical manpower was also an issue in post harvesting and trading of tomatoes.

Without investment in the agriculture sector, the country could not achieve its GDP targets, according to Dr Mami.

RDF Executive Director Ashfaq Soomro noted that despite bumper crops each year, tomato growers of Sindh always suffer due to price volatility. The government should ensure farmer friendly and fair mar-

kets in the tomato business. Storage facilities need to be installed in areas where tomatoes are produced, he stressed.

Shabnam Baloch, the provincial lead of GRASP in Sindh, highlighted the need to make a policy framework for perishable agriculture products, which was lacking in Sindh. The GRASP project and the provincial agriculture department are working on this framework and IT based market portal, she said, adding that the industry and commerce sectors should take the initiative to establish tomato value chains.

Experts, Farmers Call For Developing Tomato Fair Market Mechanisms And Value Chain Prospects In Sindh



Experts, farmer representatives and civil society called at the seminar price volatility and production issues and may forward to a seminar organized by Research and Development Foundation (RDF) and Growth for Rural Advancement (GRA) in a private hall in Karachi. A large number of farmers from Thatta, Bakh, Tando alayazi, Sanghar and Uppalwala attended the seminar. Seminar on Improving Tomato Value-chain in Sindh. Experts, farmer representatives and civil society called at the seminar price volatility and production issues and may forward to a seminar organized by Research and Development Foundation (RDF) and Growth for Rural Advancement (GRA) in a private hall in Karachi. A large number of farmers from Thatta, Bakh, Tando alayazi, Sanghar and Uppalwala attended the seminar. Seminar on Improving Tomato Value-chain in Sindh. Experts, farmer representatives and civil society called at the seminar price volatility and production issues and may forward to a seminar organized by Research and Development Foundation (RDF) and Growth for Rural Advancement (GRA) in a private hall in Karachi. A large number of farmers from Thatta, Bakh, Tando alayazi, Sanghar and Uppalwala attended the seminar. Seminar on Improving Tomato Value-chain in Sindh.

ahdapur By Asif Niaz Detho DC Dr Imran-ul-Hassan Khuwaja inaugurates RDF's solar power schemes in Hathoongo and Khipro

By Asif Niaz Detho

AHDAPUR: The city Council in our has... The Imran-ul-Hassan, a member of the Government of Sindh, inaugurated a solar power scheme at the Government of Sindh Secondary School Hathoongo and Khipro. The RDF has electrified 25 village in the district area in the past 10 years and... Dr Imran-ul-Hassan said that the solar power scheme will always support the... for their good work.

جنگ: روزنامہ جنگ، لاہور، 13 مارچ 2021ء، صفحہ 13

قلم سندھ: روزنامہ قلم سندھ، کراچی، 13 مارچ 2021ء، صفحہ 13

الف: روزنامہ الف، کراچی، 13 مارچ 2021ء، صفحہ 13

13. Financial Statement 2020-21

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JUNE 30, 2021

	Note	2021 Rupees	2020 Rupees
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment	4	3,403,328	2,707,350
Intangible assets	5	100,000	200,000
		<u>3,503,328</u>	<u>2,907,350</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables	6	5,578,164	4,040,723
Receivables from donors	7	-	1,371,360
Cash and bank balances	8	37,947,127	115,658,538
		<u>43,525,291</u>	<u>121,070,621</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>47,028,619</u></u>	<u><u>123,977,971</u></u>
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Restricted fund		33,343,256	103,291,489
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred capital grant	9	3,503,328	2,907,351
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued liabilities	10	10,182,035	17,779,131
TOTAL FUND AND LIABILITIES		<u><u>47,028,619</u></u>	<u><u>123,977,971</u></u>
CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS	11		

The annexed notes from 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	Note	2021 Rupees	2020 Rupees
INCOME			
Grant income	12	471,271,969	304,652,717
Deferred capital grant recognized	9	558,113	5,713,265
		<u>471,830,083</u>	<u>310,365,982</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Project expenses	13	(433,511,230)	(277,626,923)
General and administrative expenses	14	(32,987,122)	(26,079,541)
Projects' support expenses	15	(5,331,731)	(6,659,518)
		<u>(471,830,083)</u>	<u>(310,365,982)</u>
Surplus for the year		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Note	2021 Rupees	2020 Rupees
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Surplus for the year		-	-
Adjustments for non-cash items:			
Depreciation	4	458,112	5,613,265
Amortization	5	100,000	100,000
Deferred capital grant recognized during the year	9	595,977	(5,713,265)
		1,154,088	
(Increase) / Decrease in current assets			
Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables		(1,537,441)	(881,136)
Receivables from donors		1,371,360	(869,511)
		(166,081)	(1,750,647)
(Decrease) / Increase in current liabilities			
Accrued liabilities		(7,597,096)	2,178,077
		(7,597,096)	2,178,077
Net cash flow (used in) / generated from operating activities		(6,609,089)	427,430
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property and equipment		(1,154,090)	(385,460)
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,154,090)	(385,460)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Funds received during the year		403,838,154	329,924,609
Funds utilized during the year		(473,786,386)	(304,267,257)
Net cash flow (used in) / generated from financing activities		(69,948,232)	25,657,352
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		(77,711,411)	25,699,322
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		115,658,538	89,959,215
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	8	37,947,127	115,658,538

The annexed notes from 1 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



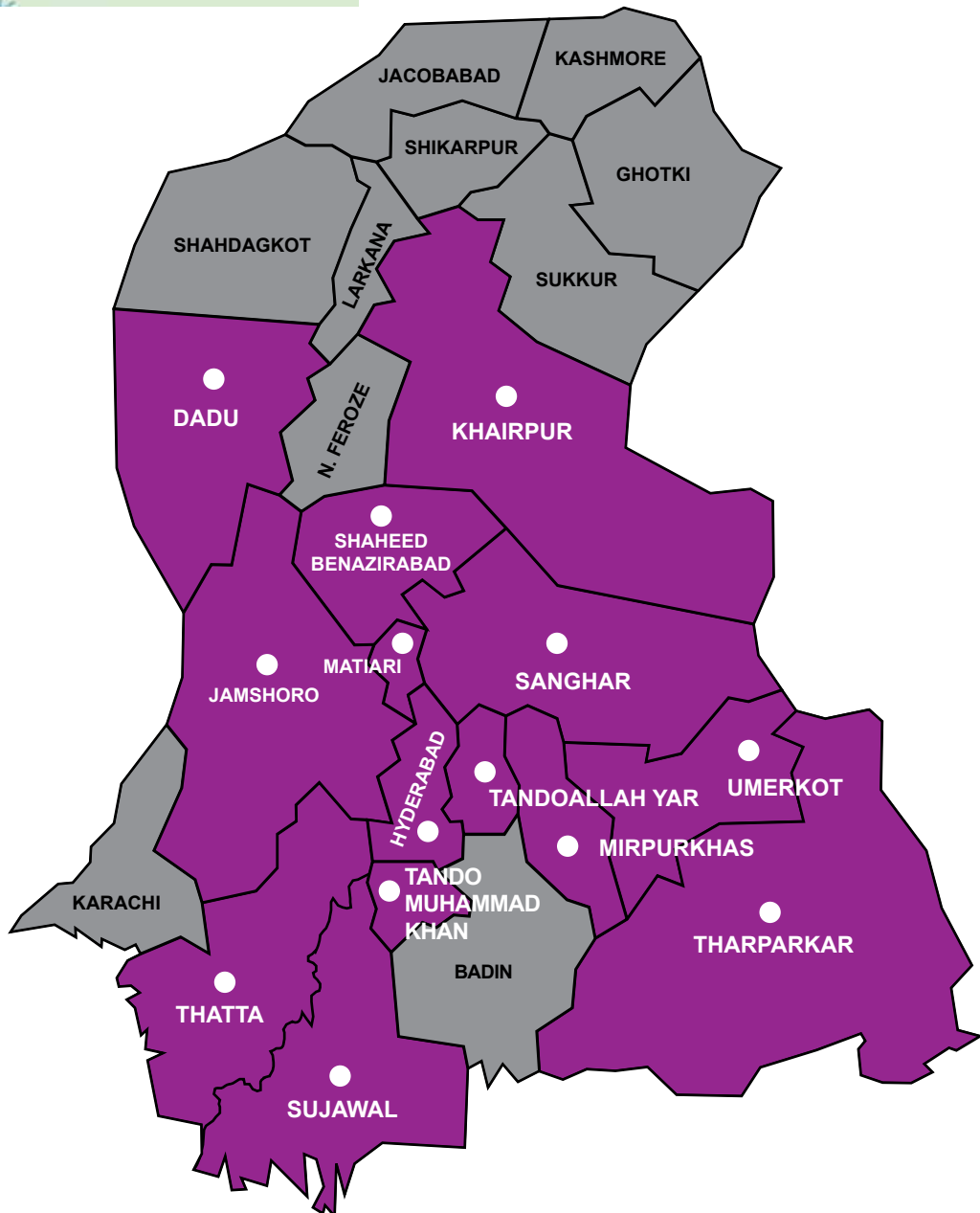
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14. Our Valued Partners




■ RDF Operational Areas






**RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT
FOUNDATION-RDF**

 A. 50, Sindhi Muslim Cooperative Housing
Society, Qasimabad, Hyderabad.

 Tel: 92-22-2102702-3

 Fax: 92-22-2102704

 www.rdfoundation.org.pk