

## **Case Study**

### **Local Support Unit District Sukkur**

There are three basic necessities of life without which mankind cannot live namely: water, air and food. It has been said that water has such great implications and conservation of water is necessary for the survival of human specie.

In this regard Pakistan is facing a severe crisis in water management. According to rough estimates about 30 to 40 percent of drinking water is wasted and drained into the sea, opened field or evaporated. A recent survey reveals that only 65 percent of the total population enjoys safe drinking water.

#### **SDSS Program**

About 22 percent of the population are using tap for their source for water supply while the majority of the population are using hand and motor pump for their water supply.

Statistics of 2001-02 reveal that only 3 percent of the rural population has tap water supply in their homes while 59 percent of the populations are using government supplied services. About 14 percent in urban areas, while 66 percent in the rural areas are using hand pumps. This shows that most of the populations in rural areas are using hand pumps for drinking water.

The Sindh Devolved Social Services Program (SDSSP) was commenced in District Sukkur in the year 2005, whereas the MOU has also been signed between the TMA Rohri and the Provincial Government. The SDSSP has funded a number of schemes in water supply and sanitation sector. People of the area have greatly benefited from these schemes especially the marginal sector of the society.

#### **Local Support Unit**

The LSU (Local Support Unit) was initiated in District Sukkur in January 2006, and since then it has provided considerable collaboration in preparation of annual sector plans in the education, health, and water supply and sanitation sectors. The LSU has a close co-ordination amongst district departments and TMAs, so they could have better understanding of the SDSSP. The LSU is also in close contact with the district EDO (F&P), the EDOs of education, health, works and services including TOs (Infra). All the said departments are working on a joint venture in order to provide social development schemes to the people for the benefits. Every officer in the district and TMA departments is giving his precious time and efforts for the project activities according to the prescribed schedule.

#### **Funding**

Even before the funds for the scheme were released, the local community people started interaction with the common stakeholders which was necessary for cooperation and sharing. After the MoU was signed between the district and the province, funds were released and physical activities were started according to the situation analysis which was carried out in order to provide the local people with maximum facilities such as education, health, and water/sanitation facilities.

## **Implications**

There were several water supply and sanitation schemes in TMA Rohri but only seven were approved and started under the SDSS program. These included repair and extension and solid waste management schemes. All these schemes have proved to be beneficial for the local people.

## **Background**

The TMA Rohri came into being on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2001; the taluka is right on the left bank of River Indus and consist of 11 Union Councils. The population of Taluka Rohri is 224,362 among them 118631 are male whereas 105731 are females. The urban population consist of 25 percent where as 75 percent is rural population. The climate is very hot during May to August and temperature goes from 46 – 50 degree centigrade. During the months from December to February the temperature is usually 10 – 24 degree centigrade.

Taluka Rohri has fertile land surrounded by a network of irrigation canals and channels. It is an important trade center for food grain, dates, sugarcane and cotton.

The town has a cement factory, a series of ginning mills and oil factories. A dairy factory of Engro Foods Limited with the investment of more than Rs 1 billion is also established at the distance of 4 km from the city.

The sub soil water of the most part of Taluka Rohri is highly brackish and unfit for human consumption due to formation of metamorphic rocks. Metamorphic rocks are compact and dense hence the prospect of getting water either from precipitation or percolation of water through River Indus, Nara Canal, Patni Minor, and Sathio Wah flowing through / adjacent to Taluka Rohri is very less.

## **Water Supply Situation**

Taluka Rohri is an ancient town, thickly populated with very old and cultural buildings and most of the constructions is wood based which is occupied by Muslims and Hindu communities. The town is very rich in natural resources especially crushing stone is abundantly available, which is one of the major income sources for TMA as well as common people. It is estimated that around 75 percent of the population is settled in rural areas and are facing severe crises of drinking water due to hilly areas. There are different water supplies schemes running under the TMA Rohri such as Urban Water Supply Scheme Rohri, which consist of three phases. Another scheme which will provide 2.5 MGD filtered / cleared water duly disinfected by chlorination for the projected population of 72000 persons is being constructed. There are 17 rural water supply schemes completed by the PHED under the DERA, ADP, and KPP, IDA.

## **Water Crisis**

People are forced to fetch water from far flung areas and they have to travel sometimes from around 1 – 4 km to bring the water to their families and they use pet animals for this and other purposes as well. Due to water crises, the village women bear most of the burden because she has to obey the order of her elders including fathers, husbands and brothers. Even their sons refuse to go and fetch water. In addition, there were many instances when several people died due to insufficient water, skin diseases, diarrhea and malaria.

## **Water Supply Scheme**

Village Kandhra is around 9 kms from Taluka Rohri and 15 kms from the Sukkur city. There is



a water supply scheme based at Kandhra. This scheme was constructed by the Public Health Engineering Department under the Annual Development Program in March 1983 and it was completed in June 1988. The cost of the scheme at that time was Rs. 4.832 million and it started functioning in July 1998. This scheme was designed for a good population of 9700 based at Kandhra and surrounding villages. The requirement of water for all the population is 223000 per day per gallon which was provided through a water channel (Kalhori Minor).

The whole population of Kandhra was suffering from different diseases created by the unhealthy and unhygienic drinking water because they were provided raw water directly from the water channel and PHED, which was not filtered but supplied directly to the population. There was a time when the raw water also stopped and the community faced water crises due to which many people migrated to other localities.

As discussed earlier the severe water crises created different problems for the people at Kandhra, including various health hazards, unhygienic conditions in their vicinity, less agricultural productivity resulting in less income generation. There is no safe drinking water in this area even under the depth of 100 feet below. Women were the ones who suffered the most violence and torture from their protectors because they were unable to fetch water.



The TMA Rohri was desperate to convince some government agencies or donors to fund in providing water supply facilities. Therefore, they rejoiced when SDSSP funded the scheme of Kandhra. The extension and rehabilitation scheme was constructed with a cost of Rs 1.158 million. It was started in June 2005 and completed in September 2005.

The TMA Rohri initially installed 2 machines in the pump house of Kandhra. Each machine is a Siemens make with KSB size of 4.3. Through the SDSSP scheme digging of 100 feet depth was done close to the Kalhori minor and sweet water was found. The water was tested in the Engro Laboratories at Daharki which showed that the water contained 650 electric conductivity which means that the water is equal to Nestle water available in the market. According to their report, district Sukkur now has the best water available.



The scheme is providing 360,000 gallons of water per day to about a population of 20,000 who are living in 2570 houses.

The water is providing through machines from the Kalhori minor to the HSR via a 6 inches diameter pipeline. It is collected in the HSR again and is distributed via 4 inches diameter pipeline to the different households. Each machines runs for six hours during day.

The people of the area are now very satisfied with the scheme and are thankful to the SDSSP funds and TMA Rohri for providing high quality drinking water for the local people. It is like a dream come true for the people of Kandhra.