

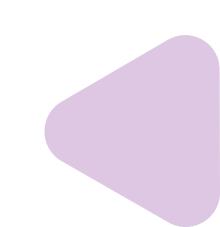
## FRDP Valuing Diversity Serving The Unserved

**FRDP NEWS BULLETIN APRIL-JUNE 2023** 

"FRDP goes above and beyond, reaching remote and marginalized communities, ensuring equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic background."

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#### **FRDP Valuing Diversity: Serving the Unserved**

Since its inception, the Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP) has established itself as a multidimensional institution that identifies the needs of people and devises strategies to ensure the timely delivery of services while upholding the dignity of the recipients, promoting transparency, and maintaining accountability in its all processes. FRDP understands that the needs and challenges faced by communities are diverse and varied. As such, the organization actively embraces diversity in its approach to ensure tailored solutions that cater to the unique circumstances of each community. By acknowledging and appreciating the rich tapestry of cultures, traditions, and perspectives, FRDP creates an inclusive environment that fosters trust, respect, and understanding. The charity and development approaches of FRDP have successfully attracted individuals who previously struggled to find accessible platforms to contribute their efforts.

At FRDP, every contribution, no matter how small, is valued and implemented with high-quality standards. With the support of individuals and institutions, FRDP has implemented various programs aimed at improving the lives of communities across different regions. A core aspect of FRDP's mission is to extend its services to those who have been traditionally overlooked or underserved. The organization goes above and beyond to reach remote, isolated, and marginalized communities that often face barriers to accessing basic services and opportunities. The services spectrum captures reaching out in the deserts and arid regions of Sindh and Balochistan, the plain lands of Punjab, and the hilly areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In line with its commitment to diversity, FRDP promotes equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic background. The organization is trying to create an environment where everyone has an equal chance to access resources, participate in decision-making processes, and benefit from the services provided.

FRDP by promoting inclusivity and equality, enables communities to thrive and contribute to their own development

FRDP recognizes the importance of harnessing technology to enhance its service delivery. By embracing digitization, FRDP is streamlining efficiency, itsoperations, improving and enhancing the overall experience for its stakeholders. Through the digitization of services, stakeholders can conveniently access real-time updates on various aspects of FRDP's work. This includes information on ongoing projects, progress updates, financial reports, and impact assessments. By providing access to such data, FRDP ensures transparency and accountability to its stakeholders, fostering trust and confidence in the organization's activities. FRDP levering its partners and network platforms actively promotes knowledge sharing and learning within the development community. The organization collaborates with academic institutions, research organizations, and other stakeholders to conduct research and demonstrations. By partnering with these entities, FRDP not only contributes to the body of knowledge but also gains valuable insights and innovative solutions to address development challenges.



FRDP's services, focused on ensuring the availability and access to water, continue to be the centerpiece of all its programs. The organization combines the traditional knowledge held by beneficiaries with technological solutions to achieve safe drinking water availability for millions of people across the country. Beneficiaries are provided with both household and communal-level solutions, which they subsequently manage and safeguard themselves. FRDP has played a crucial role in enhancing livelihoods, securing available resources for the recipients, contributing to the improvement of health systems, fostering an enabling environment for learning and education, providing shelter for the homeless, offering humanitarian assistance, and advocating for policy reforms. These diverse contributions have made FRDP an active and dynamic organization, always ready to tackle challenges head-on. FRDP is dedicated to building the capacities and leadership skills of communities. By empowering local communities, FRDP ensures that they become leaders in driving their own development initiatives, utilizing their proximity and understanding of the local context.

FRDP's commitment to creating a supportive inclusive environment orphans. and for widows, and individuals with disabilities is a cornerstone of the organization's identity. The organization recognizes the unique challenges and vulnerabilities faced by these marginalized groups and works tirelessly to address their specific needs. The nationwide Orphan Support Program aims to provide a nurturing and caring environment for children who have lost their parents. FRDP focused on creating safe spaces where these groups of orphans, widows, and differently able people can heal, grow, and receive the necessary support for their physical, emotional, and educational well-being. FRDP's efforts go beyond the mere provision of basic necessities, as an organization strives to offer comprehensive care, including access to healthcare, education, vocational training, and recreational activities.

Through its comprehensive and inclusive approach, FRDP continues to make a significant impact on humanitarian development, fostering positive change and empowering communities to create a brighter future.

#### **Biparjoy Cyclone: Road to Recovery**

Once again, in June 2023, the coastal belt of Sindh province found itself in the clutches of a potentially catastrophic cyclone, underscoring the relentless onslaught of natural disasters in the region. As the storm wreaks havoc, it prompts reflection on humanity's complicity in this assault on nature and the ultimate burden it bears. Looking back to the catastrophic cyclone of 1999, Pakistan experienced a dark chapter in its history as a powerful cyclone unleashed destruction along its coastal regions.

In 1999, sea waves rose to dangerous heights, reaching fifteen to twenty feet, submerging various areas in saltwater. Tragically, hundreds of people went missing as the storm expanded its reach, and to this day, many remain unaccounted for, along with millions of displaced coastal residents in Sindh. The official figures report a loss of six and a half thousand lives and over a hundred thousand displaced individuals. While rescue efforts managed to recover approximately 400 bodies, more than 6,000 missing persons were presumed deceased.



The intensity of this storm still lingers in the collective memory, ensuring it will never fade away.

To address the crisis, the Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah, has directed officials to establish a control room for close coordination with all districts. This directive was issued prior to officially declaring the emergency, as stated in a press release from the Chief Minister's office. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has also cautioned about rough sea conditions, advising fishermen to refrain from venturing into the sea. The NDMA's statement forecasts rain, dust, thunderstorms with heavy rainfall, and gusty winds in the coastal areas of Sindh. Local law enforcement agencies are urging people to evacuate coastal regions and find safer locations. However, individuals reliant on daily wages are facing challenges in covering the cost of transportation. The potential impact of the storm, with hurricane-like winds, heavy rainfall, flooding, rough seas, and a significant storm surge, poses a grave threat to the affected areas.

Responding swiftly, the Fast Rural Development Program has activated its Emergency Response Team, working tirelessly day and night to assess emerging situations. FRDP produced daily Situation Reports and issued precautions and safety guidelines in multiple languages. FRDP has prioritized assisting over 10,000 households in relocating to safer areas. The organization has also reached out to partners for funding to ensure the availability of essential medicines, safe drinking water, and cooked food distribution among displaced communities.

On June 15, 2023, a deep depression entered Pakistan's territory through the eastern Rann of Kutch, specifically impacting Diplo Tehsil of Tharparkar District. Throughout the day, the storm brought intense and moderate rainfall to the surrounding districts, passing through Islamkot and Nangarparkar before crossing the Indian border. Satellite data confirms that the cyclone caused heavy rain and strong winds in Tehsil Diplo, reaching its peak intensity between 3 am and 4:30 am.

Local authorities, particularly in Thatta, Badin, and Tharparkar districts, have been actively rescuing individuals in danger and providing shelter in temporary relief camps. During the period from June 13 to 15, 2023, approximately 84,610 people were displaced. District authorities evacuated 14,496 households from low-lying areas prone to flooding and exposed to cyclone winds. Around 38,715 people have been accommodated in 88 camps, primarily set up in government buildings. Power shortages and inadequate water drainage systems, especially in Diplo and Mithi towns, have exacerbated the challenges during torrential rains. Lightning strikes have resulted in one death in Mirpurkhas



and another in Umerkot, with four reported injuries in Tharparkar and Umerkot. Additionally, the storm has caused the loss of 35-40 goats, four cows, and damage to several mud houses in Nangarparkar. There are concerns that the Maya Dam in Nangar may also overflow.

In Thatta and Sujawal, displaced communities have been provided with two meals a day, safe drinking water, and primary health services through Mobile Health Clinics. Humanitarian response organizations have conducted network meetings to strategize and contribute to the district and provincial authorities. Resources have been mapped out, and discussions are underway to ensure an effective response.

During and post cyclone, The FRDP team, operating in Tharparkar, Sajawal, Thatta, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Shaheed Benazir Abad, and Hyderabad, maintained close coordination with district authorities and UN institutions, and network partners to monitor the evolving situation and assess the needs on the ground. The team was actively utilizing available assistance to provide support where it was most needed. The District Thatta Administration, led by Anees Abbasi (Assistant Commissioner), along with lqtidar Rasool Behrani (Mukhtiarkar Thatta), Toufeeq Ahmed Memon (Assistant Mukhtiarkar), and Muhammad Asghar Parheri (Junior Clerk), has been instrumental in identifying needs and distributing relief goods provided by FRDP and Paani among the affected communities. FRDP efforts have been recognized and appreciated for their collaboration and timely services.

FRDP has distributed food supplements to 200 families taking shelter in the Elementary College and Government Girls' School in Thatta. Among the beneficiaries were ten pregnant women and 346 children.

distribution During the of nutrient feed supplements to children in the relief camps, the Deputy Executive Director, Senior Program Manager, and Media and Communication Manager from FRDP conducted sessions with the communities, focusing on improved camp management, sanitation, and health hygiene. The FRDP team has extended transportation support to the district government in Tharparkar. As communities begin to return to their homes, FRDP continued to assess their needs and actively engaged with partners to secure the necessary support for their recovery and rehabilitation.

The road to recovery from the devastating cyclone will be challenging, but with collaborative efforts, timely interventions, and support from



various organizations and authorities, the affected communities can rebuild their lives and regain stability. It is crucial to ensure longterm resilience in the face of recurring natural disasters and to address the underlying issues that make communities vulnerable to such crises.

#### WASH: Flagship of Programs.

During the reporting quarter, the teams in Sindh made significant progress in expanding their outreach and achieving their targets. Despite facing various challenges, the Fast Rural Development Program has successfully exceeded the overall targets for its WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) program during this period, delivering quality projects on schedule.

One of the key highlights of this quarter is the extended services provided by our team to a larger number of areas. We were able to reach 15 tehsils, 39 union councils, and 222 villages across Tharparkar, Badin, Umerkot, Mirpurkhas, Shaheed Benazirabad, and Khairpur Mir's districts. This expanded outreach enabled us to have a positive impact on the lives of a greater number of communities that we serve.

Our achieved teams remarkable Collaborating accomplishments. with organizations such as PEENY Appeal USA, PAANI, Peace Train, JTS Koria, FRDP-I, and FRDP PK, we successfully completed a range of projects. These include the construction of 2048 normal wells, 339 deep wells, 15 solar wells, 3 mosques, and 12 shelters. These projects play a crucial role in improving access to clean water, promoting sanitation, and providing essential facilities for communal use.

In addition to infrastructure projects, our team also focused on providing immediate relief to communities affected by floods and displaced during Biparjoy Cyclone. During this reporting period, FRDP distributed 1000 ration bags to those in need, ensuring that vulnerable households had access to essential food supplies. Furthermore, we provided 200 nutrient feed bags specifically for children and pregnant women to support their nutritional needs during displacement. FRDP quarterly progress highlights the commitment of our partners and the dedication of the FRDP team to reaching a wider population and making a positive impact on the communities in Sindh. The successful completion of infrastructure projects and the provision of immediate relief demonstrate our ongoing efforts to address the pressing needs of the communities we serve.

#### Areas of Need:

#### Sanitation:

Urban areas throughout the program area require community-driven mechanisms, while in rural areas, there is a significant need for support in rebuilding latrines for those who have lost them. Launching awareness campaigns to reduce open defecation is also crucial. Public entities such as girls schools and health facilities also are damaged and require immediate rehabilitation of facilities.

#### Water:

Based on the initial needs assessment, over 430,000 individuals in the area where FRDP is implementing schemes require safe water solutions.

#### Hygiene & NFIs:

There is a pressing need for continuous awareness and provision of hygiene kits, specifically for women and girls who lack access or awareness. Even in the areas where FRDP has provided hygiene and NFI kits, approximately 200,000 women and girls still require support.



### FRDP Contribution to WASH Sector After Flood 2022:

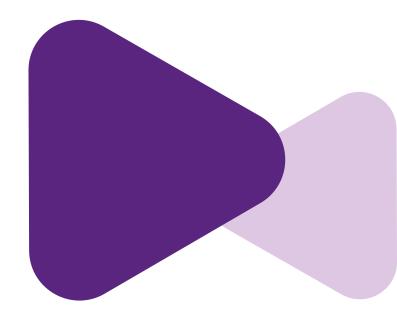
FRDP in collaboration with PAANI, Penny Appeal, CARE International, Joint Together Society, Salam Charity, FRDP-I, and individual philanthropy initiated a total of 61 projects. Out of these, 7 projects are still ongoing. The initiatives focused on various areas, including drinking water availability, hygiene and non-food item (NFI) distribution, and sanitation improvement in Hyderabad slums.

FRDP installed a total of 4,089 handpumps in 46 Union Councils across Khairpur, Shaheed Benazirabad, Jacobabad, Badin, Mirpurkhas, Tharparkar, Charsadah, and Noushehra Districts. Additionally, FRDP installed a water purifier in the Central Jail of Hyderabad. Solar solutions for deep wells were implemented in Jacobabad and Tharparkar Districts. FRDP also contributed to the installation of 9 tube wells, with two of them being funded under the flood response program. During floods in Baluchistan, FRDP ensured the provision of water to 1,500 households in Naseerabad through water trucking.

A total of 28 initiatives were launched during the period, providing hygiene and essential NFIs to a population of 62,847 in Jafarabad, Jhal Magsi, and Naseerabad districts of Baluchistan. In Punjab, FRDP served in Rajanpur, Naushehra, and Dera Ismail Khan of KPK. In Sindh, the areas covered included Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Badin,

Mirpurkhas, Shaheed Benazirabad, Jacobabad, Qambar, Sanghar, Karachi, and Thatta. FRDP also provided two months' stock of shampoo to 11,547 households in District Hyderabad, Jamshoro, Khairpur, and Shaheed Benazirabad.

FRDP initiated a mega and long-term project for improving sanitation in Hyderabad slums. With the support of partners and relevant government authorities, FRDP conducted assessments and identified 30 locations where it will improve sanitation and provide proper community-driven safe waste disposal mechanisms.





#### Value Addition Impacts Economical as well Social Wellbeing.

Veersi Bheel, a resident of Jagaweri Village nestled among sandy dunes, embarked on a remarkable journey of transformation and resilience. As a young and determined laborer, Veersi early years were marked by constant migration in search of better income opportunities.

Unfortunately, his hard work often resulted in minimal gains for his family, as he found himself at the mercy of exploitative landlords who benefited from his toil. However, a glimmer of hope emerged one evening in the form of a non-governmental organization (NGO) called Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP).

News quickly spread throughout Veersi village that FRDP was seeking young and progressive individuals to join the Village Development Committee. This committee aimed to address community issues, propose solutions, and pool resources for joint resolutions. Veersi eagerly attended the village-level dialogue where the participants collectively demanded a solar-powered well to address the village's water scarcity.

Through FRDP's efforts, a donor was secured who generously funded the establishment of a solar well and water tank.

This development provided the village with an adequate drinking water supply to meet its needs. Additionally, FRDP recognized the potential of wastewater and taught the villagers how to channel it productively and effectively. They helped establish small kitchen garden plots, where seasonal vegetables were cultivated to combat night blindness and improve the overall diet of the family. FRDP also provided essential equipment and seeds to get the project started.

With newfound determination and the ongoing support of FRDP, Veersi established a flourishing kitchen garden in his backyard. Throughout the entire crop cycle, the FRDP team remained by his side, offering invaluable guidance and assistance.

Encouraged by Veersi success, other group members followed suit, leading to an abundance of vegetables beyond their daily requirements. Together, they mobilized community groups and collectively negotiated fairer compensation for their hard work. For Veersi, this transformative experience became a revelation—a realization that when voices unite, positive change occurs. No longer was he an isolated low-caste villager; he became an integral member of a larger community working together towards shared goals.

The impact of this collaborative effort extended far beyond financial gains, fostering empowerment and resilience in the face of adversity. Today, Veersi Bheel stands tall as a symbol of triumph over hardships. Once overshadowed by his circumstances, he now embodies the resilience and transformative power of community support. Through the joint efforts of FRDP and the villagers, Veersi story exemplifies the possibilities that emerge when individuals come together to create positive change.



#### **HOIFA Funded Project:**

#### Humanitarian Assistance to the heavy Monsoon Rainfall and Flood affected households in the UCs of District Dadu, Sindh, and District Rajanpur, Punjab, Pakistan

In a commendable collaboration, the Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP) and the Rural Community Development Society (RCDS) joined to implement a vital project aimed at providing much-needed assistance to floodaffected households. The project operated in two respective districts: Dadu, Sindh, where it covered the Union Councils of Bahadurpur and Fatehpur, and Rajanpur District of Punjab, where it encompassed the Union Councils of Noorpur Manjhuwala, Hajipur, and Bukhara.

The primary objective of the project was to extend multi-purpose cash assistance to 1,939 households impacted by the devastating floods. By offering this support, the implementing partners sought to enable the affected families to endure their hardships and gradually restore normalcy to their lives. Throughout the project duration, both FRDP and RCDS remained steadfast in their commitment to efficiently and effectively reach vulnerable communities. This endeavor was generously supported by Global Humanitarian Organization for International Assistance (HOIFA). The implementing partners diligently adhered to the highest standards of transparency, efficiency, and accountability in line with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)



and WHH principles. A remarkable aspect of this collaboration was the seamless sharing of operational information between the two organizations. This transparency ensured mutual oversight and accountability for all projectrelated activities.

To execute the project successfully, the teams from both RCDS and FRDP engaged in crossvisits to each other's operational areas, fostering facilitation and knowledge exchange. The project teams efficiently formed village committees and actively involved the local community in identifying the most vulnerable households deserving of Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). For the disbursement of cash assistance, FRDP meticulously engaged the services of Microfinance Jazz Cash company, ensuring a rigorous and reliable process. Additionally, the project published various visibility materials, such as Village Committee Formation, Complaint Response Mechanism, and Cash disbursement banners/backdrops/ standees, to enhance the project's transparency and community awareness during crucial phases.

Recognizing the significance of community involvement and accountability, both RCDS and FRDP established a comprehensive Complaint Accountability Response. Feedback, and Mechanism (CRM). This mechanism was thoughtfully integrated into different stages of the project, including beneficiary assessment and cash disbursement, to guarantee equitable participation, transparency, and accountability. Formal and informal monitoring approaches were diligently employed to assess project performance and ensure compliance with process standards and program criteria. The active inclusion and participation of beneficiaries were consistently monitored to maintain the quality of services provided. The project management team, led by senior management, the project manager, and the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) manager, efficiently implemented the M&E/CRM system through dedicated project staff in the field.

To uphold international standards, the project adhered to the Minimum Standards Core

Humanitarian Standards, Sphere Humanitarian Charter, and Minimum Standards in Emergency Response and Inter-Agency Collaboration. The collaborative efforts of FRDP and RCDS, with the support of Global HOIFA, bore fruit in successfully providing essential multi-purpose cash assistance to flood-affected households. The project exemplified the power of teamwork, transparency, and accountability in humanitarian initiatives, leaving a positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries. The result-based monitoring system ensured the project's success, as it was closely monitored and evaluated, safeguarding compliance, inclusivity, and the quality of services rendered.

#### WHH Funded Urban Food Production Project:

The Urban Food Production Project, funded by WHH and implemented in neighborhoods of Hyderabad, aims to strengthen communities through the implementation of WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) and urban food production activities. The project focuses on various activities, including food cultivation techniques, capacity-building training, youth empowerment through business programs, provision of WASH systems in slums, and awareness sessions on WASH. The project aims to increase knowledge and bring about a positive change in the day-to-day routines of the recipients, particularly during the crucial 1000day window of opportunity.

During this quarter, the Urban Team held meetings in 20 urban slums to address waste management challenges. As a result, e-guards were identified as key individuals responsible for waste management systems. These e-guards will undergo training on waste management systems and will be provided with protective equipment kits to ensure their safety while carrying out their duties. The project team actively engaged with various stakeholders to foster coordination and collaboration. Meetings were held to discuss project progress, challenges, and opportunities for joint efforts.

These collaborative efforts aim to leverage expertise and resources for the effective implementation of the project. Awareness sessions were conducted by the field team to educate the community about the importance of the 1000-day window of opportunity for maternal and child health care. The team emphasized the significance of proper nutrition and healthcare during this period, as it plays a crucial role in the growth and development of babies and the overall well-being of mothers.

#### **Improving Sanitation and Well-being**

In line with the project's objectives, the team celebrated World Health Day, focusing on the theme "Building a better, healthier world for everyone." A school session was organized to raise awareness among children about specific health issues. This event served as an excellent opportunity to educate schoolchildren about the importance of health and fitness, promoting a healthier lifestyle. The project team attended training sessions on the People First Impact Method. These sessions emphasized the importance of listening to the community and understanding their needs. The team learned about information exchange, complaint response procedures, and the significance of a code of conduct in engaging with the community. The objective of these trainings is to build trust, ownership, and empowerment within the communities, ensuring that their voices are heard and respected throughout the project implementation. in the heart of Hyderabad district, there existed a slum area called Ghera Basti, situated near Fateh Chowk. Within its boundaries, approximately 500 households housed a population of around 3,035 resilient individuals. The people of Ghera Basti relied on small businesses to sustain their livelihoods. Cloth selling, the trade of jeans pants, trousers, shirts, and plastic pot vending were common activities that kept the economic wheel turning. Additionally, the women of Ghera Basti contributed to the household income by preparing and selling delicious paratha cholla in the mornings, while also assisting their men in the plastic pot trade. However, despite the community's industrious nature, the living conditions in Ghera Basti were far from ideal. The lack of proper sanitation facilities created a distressing situation for its residents. With a high population density, the absence of washrooms became a glaring issue. The people had no choice but to resort to using plastic canes as makeshift toilets. Tragically, these makeshift toilets were often discarded on the roads or thrown into any available main hole, worsening the already dire conditions. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, a private organization stepped forward to help. They provided Ghera Basti with six toilets, aiming to alleviate the community's struggles. Unfortunately, the absence of a proper sewerage system rendered these toilets nonfunctional and damaged. Realizing the gravity of the problem, a community focal person raised concerns during a technical survey. They emphasized the urgent need to repair these toilets and stressed the community's requirement for an additional six general toilets to adequately serve the residents' needs.

This unfortunate predicament shed light on the vulnerability of the community living in Ghera Basti. The lack of proper sanitation facilities not only compromised their hygiene but also posed significant health risks. The absence of a functioning sewerage system further exacerbated the problem, making it difficult to maintain functional toilets. Despite these challenges, the community members remained steadfast and determined to improve their living conditions. They sought support to repair the existing toilets and construct additional ones to address the pressing needs of the community. In response to the community's plight, the FRDP Team, a dedicated group of individuals, conducted a technical survey of Ghera Basti. They understood that fulfilling the community's need for proper washrooms had become the top priority. To determine the feasibility of implementing washrooms and establishing a sustainable sewage system, a WASH engineer surveyed the area extensively.

Armed with this valuable information, the FRDP Team now embarked on the task of preparing a detailed feasibility report. Their next step was to consult with potential donors and secure the necessary resources to undertake this crucial project. The FRDP Team was committed to meeting the needs of the community and ensuring that their input was valued throughout the entire process. They understood the significance of involving the residents in decision-making and actively sought their opinions and suggestions. With their unwavering dedication and the support of generous donors, the FRDP Team aimed to transform the lives of the residents of Ghera Basti. By addressing the pressing need for functional toilets and establishing a proper sewerage system, the team hoped

to significantly improve the overall well-being and quality of life of the people in this vulnerable community.



### CARE Funded Early Recovery support for flood-affected families in Dadu, Sindh

The project "Early Recovery Support for the Flood Affected Families in Pakistan" aims to provide assistance to flood-affected families in District Dadu, Sindh. The project focuses on three main components:

- Improved WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) and preventive health services in public institutions and the community.
- Increased safety and protection of children and community members in schools and villages through disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures.
- Improved access to nutritious food and nutrition awareness among communities, with a specific emphasis on kitchen gardening for women beneficiaries.

The project started in mid-May 2023, including establishing liaisons with the District Administration, obtaining necessary permits, hiring staff, arranging orientation sessions, and setting up the project office. The implementation phase began with the selection of project areas in collaboration with the District Administration, DDMA (District Disaster Management Authority), and the Education Department. The selection process prioritized the avoidance of duplication and overlapping of work while considering the needs of the affected communities.

- Support will be provided to 10 schools and 03 health facilities in the WASH sector, including the construction and rehabilitation of facilities such as safe drinking water, latrines, drainage, and handwashing facilities.
- Hygiene promotion sessions have been planned and will be conducted with the respective communities surrounding the selected schools.
- The project will contribute to rehabilitating embankments, conducting mock drill sessions, and establishing an early warning system in 03 schools and at the community level.
- The project also aims to promote kitchen gardening as part of family farming, with a primary focus on women beneficiaries.

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- Awareness sessions on kitchen gardening will be conducted for 832 beneficiaries, along with the provision of kitchen gardening kits, tools, seeds, and training on composting and organic pesticides.
- So far the project has following progress,
- The village profiling process is initiated as per the revised format by CIP,
- The Education Department has recommended 13 schools, out of which 10 are to be selected for WASH interventions after completing the Assessment. Three schools will be selected for DRR interventions.
- Three health facilities were recommended by the Focal Person of DDMA, but one facility had to be canceled due to severe damage to the building. A replacement facility has been nominated by DDMA.
- The WASH team is currently identifying potential beneficiaries for hygiene promotion sessions and mosquito kits. The completion of the WASH assessment forms is underway.
- The engineer started developing BoQs (Bill of Quantities), once the validation of selected institutes by FRDP's MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning) Officer is completed.

- Five SMCs (School Management Committees) have been identified, and efforts are being made to regularize monthly meetings. One SMC has become functional through the efforts of the FRDP team.
- Functional relationships have been established with the Agriculture Department of Dadu, and their recommendations have been received regarding kitchen gardening kits' specifications and vegetable calendars.
- Coordination mechanisms have been developed with the office of Assistant Commissioner K. N Shah, INGOs/NGOs working in Mehar, and K. N Shah to ensure effective collaboration and information sharing.
- Seventeen village profiles have been completed as part of the project's data collection and assessment process.



#### Spearheading the Expansion

The FRDP team conducted an initial assessment for Kitchen Gardening in the flood-affected village of Hoti Khan Narejo. As part of the process, an awareness session was organized by the mobilization team, along with the Agriculture Officer, to educate women about the significance of kitchen gardening, particularly in the recovery phase after the devastating floods. The session aimed to empower women with knowledge and skills to cultivate their own vegetables and promote self-reliance.

During the first meeting, the FRDP team shared valuable insights about the benefits of kitchen gardening with the women participants. The team emphasized the importance of this initiative for the flood-affected families and encouraged them to actively engage in the project. The women were made aware of the positive impact kitchen gardening could have on their lives, including improved nutrition, reduced expenses, and the opportunity for economic empowerment. Two days later, the FRDP team returned to Hoti Khan Narejo for a follow-up meeting. To their delight, they discovered that Ms. Seema and Ms. Shagufta were highly motivated by the initial mobilization session and had taken on the role of catalysts for change within the community. Both women expressed their eagerness to become champions of kitchen gardening and share their experiences and knowledge with others.

Ms. Seema shared her previous experience of cultivating vegetables alongside trees in her small plot of land. She pledged to serve as a mentor and willingly offered to share her valuable insights and expertise with other women farmers involved in the project. Her passion and dedication to the cause made her an ideal candidate for guiding and inspiring others. Ms. Shagufta expressed her desire to go above and beyond by beautifying her kitchen garden with 'Privet Hedging.' This innovative approach aimed to showcase her achievements and inspire other women farmers. Her determination to create an exemplary kitchen garden served as a source of motivation for the entire community.

Recognizing the passion and commitment of Ms. Seema and Ms. Shagufta, the FRDP team entrusted them with significant responsibilities. They were elected for the lead role by their community group for selecting additional beneficiaries and identifying like-minded women to engage in project activities. Their proactive approach and first-hand experience made them excellent candidates for spearheading the expansion of the initiative.

By empowering women like Ms. Seema and Ms. Shagufta and entrusting them with leadership roles, we witnessed enhanced participation from women in the community, driven by the motivation and guidance provided by the champions. Ms. Seema's mentoring and sharing of experiences helped build the capacity of other women farmers, enabling them to maximize the potential of their kitchen gardens. Ms. Shagufta's creative approach to decorating her kitchen garden with 'Privet Hedging' inspired other beneficiaries to strive for excellence in their own projects.



#### **Empowering Afghan Refugee Children**

Aisha Academy, an initiative of FRDP and PAANI is a renowned educational institution for Afghan Refugee children in Kheshgi Muhajir Camp Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, is dedicated to providing students with a comprehensive and well-rounded learning experience. It strives to surpass traditional classroom teaching by actively involving students in a variety of activities, even during their summer vacations. The academy recognizes the value of this time and aims to nurture creativity, personal growth, and academic development among its students. Aisha Academy is committed to offering a well-rounded educational experience that goes beyond traditional teaching methods. By providing engaging activities and opportunities for personal growth, the academy ensures that students maximize their potential during summer vacations while maintaining a strong focus on academic excellence. Currently, the professional team at Aisha Academy is providing services to a total of 89 students. Additionally, 28 new students have enrolled for the upcoming sessions. The demand for our services is high; however, due to limited facilities, we can only accommodate a maximum of 100 students per batch.

Academic excellence is a cornerstone of Aisha Academy's values. Each year, the academy conducts comprehensive assessments and evaluations to monitor students' progress and ensure their overall growth.

The annual results serve as a testament to the student's hardwork, dedication, and effectiveness

of the academy's teaching methodologies.

Aisha Academy upholds a transparent evaluation process that takes into account not only academic performance but also holistic development. In addition to regular exams, the assessment includes project work, presentations, practical examinations, and participation in co-curricular activities. The academy strongly believes in acknowledging and appreciating the unique strengths and talents of each student, thereby fostering a positive and conducive learning environment.

Since the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa education department has announced summer vacation in June, but rather than considering summer vacations as a break from learning, Aisha Academy views it as an opportunity for students to explore their interests, acquire new skills, and prepare for the upcoming academic year. To ensure students make the most of their time off, the academy offers a wide range of engaging programs and activities.

Physical fitness is highly emphasized at Aisha Academy, and this is reflected in the approach to summer vacations. The academy organizes sports tournaments, fitness camps, and adventure trips to promote active engagement among students. Through these activities, students learn the importance of teamwork, discipline, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.



#### **Unlocking Potential, Inspiring Change**

Girls from Afghan refugee families often face numerous obstacles when it comes to accessing education in Pakistan. Cultural norms, economic constraints, and lack of awareness contribute to limiting their educational opportunities. Recognizing the importance of addressing these restrictions, the Aisha Academy embarked on a mission to empower female students through education.

During the first dialogue with these families, the Aisha Academy discovered the multitude of challenges faced by female Afghan refugees. Societal norms prioritizing traditional roles over education, limited resources allocated to girls' education, and lack of access to schools due to distance or safety concerns were some of the major hurdles. These obstacles not only limited the educational opportunities for these girls but also hindered their potential for growth.

Highlighting the proactive approach of the Aisha Academy's team, they went door-to-door in Afghan refugee communities to engage with parents and address their concerns about educating their daughters. Prioritizing the safety and security of their children, the team patiently communicated the benefits of enrollment and engagement for an educated society. They dispelled misconceptions and emphasized the importance of empowering female students through knowledge.

After almost twelve months of functioning as a central hub for facilitation, the Aisha Academy has witnessed transformative changes within the Afghan refugee community as a result of educating female students. Nearly half of the current enrollment comprises girls, and the limited space available is unable to meet the dire need expressed by parents to admit their daughters. This shift in perspective has gradually broken down barriers and paved the way for increased educational opportunities for all.

Furthermore, as trust developed among the communities, the mothers of Aisha Academy's students have emerged as agents of change, impacting not only their own lives but also their families and communities. Through education, these mothers are contributing to a positive ripple effect that extends beyond their immediate circles, creating a wave of empowerment and transformation. The Aisha Academy's commitment to empowering Afghan refugee girls through education has proven to be a catalyst for change. By providing a nurturing environment, dispelling misconceptions, and engaging with communities, they have succeeded in unlocking the potential of these girls and breaking the cycle of limited educational opportunities. The success story of the Aisha Academy serves as an inspiring example of how education can create a brighter future for girls from Afghan refugee families and empower them to become leaders within their communities.



#### **Orphan Support Program.**

According to UNICEF estimates in 2018, Pakistan had approximately 4.2 million orphaned and abandoned children. These children face numerous challenges and difficulties in a society that is characterized by uncertainty, economic deprivation, and social disenfranchisement. The challenges are particularly significant for children who are only under the care of their mothers, as they often struggle to meet their basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, education, and healthcare. The prevailing economic deprivation, inflation, and lack of accessible social safety nets make it even more difficult for them to provide these essential resources. As a result, many orphaned children suffer from malnutrition, inadequate housing conditions, limited access to medical care, and compromised socio-physical well-being.

In economically disadvantaged rural areas, a significant number of orphaned children have limited or no access to basic education. Due to their circumstances, they often prioritize earning daily wages over pursuing education and gaining awareness. This lack of education perpetuates the cycle of poverty and hampers their long-term prospects. Recent cases have demonstrated that these vulnerable children are prone to various forms of exploitation and abuse, including child labor, trafficking, and physical and emotional abuse. Without parental support and protection, they become easy targets for individuals seeking exploit their vulnerability. Additionally, to orphaned children frequently experience social stigma and discrimination due to their orphan status. They face ostracization and differential treatment within their communities, leading to feelings of isolation, low self-esteem, and a lack of belonging.

As they grow up, they often struggle to find acceptance within their own tribes and families.



The cumulative impact of poverty, parental loss, and social challenges takes a toll on the mental health of orphaned children. They often experience anxiety, depression, and trauma, necessitating proper support and intervention. Unfortunately, such support is not readily available to all children in need. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach involving government initiatives, civil society organizations, and community participation. In response to these issues, the Orphan Support Program was initiated by FRDP. This program aims to facilitate access to quality education, primary healthcare, and social support systems for orphaned children. It seeks to create awareness, promote inclusive policies, and advocate for the rights of orphaned children. The program's objective is to integrate these children into mainstream society and ensure their formal registration for social safety nets. The program was launched in the third quarter of 2023, which coincided with the annual exams and approaching summer vacations for schools.



The timing of such initiatives is crucial to ensure better coordination and cooperation with schools and guardians.

The team took the initiative to develop orphan identification forms, which were later integrated into the Orphan Support Program's online portal. They also developed a strategy and memorandum of understanding with educational institutions. The team through a door-to-door approach identified around 290 orphans and registered them in an online database, which is accessible to everyone to contribute and monitor child-wise progress and be a part of their step-by-step development. However, the team encountered multiple challenges during the process.

The most significant challenge was earning the trust of the guardians, who had often been deceived in the past. Additionally, collecting essential documents such as the death certificate of the father, birth certificate, and school enrollment records proved to be a challenge, with over 70% of the registered children lacking these documents. Nevertheless, the team made efforts to process and obtain these necessary documents.

#### Nurturing Dreams, Illuminating Possibilities.

Sonia, a 14-year-old girl, is a bright student at Golden Life School in Gatta Ground, Preatabad, Hyderabad. Despite facing numerous challenges, she is determined to pursue her education. In the early morning, she heads to school, and in the afternoon, she works in nearby houses to earn some wages and support her family. Sonia's family lives in a rented house, and her father used to work as a daily wager under unfavorable conditions, which eventually led to him developing cancer. Unable to afford his treatment expenses, they were devastated when her father passed away, leaving them alone to face the uncertainties of life.

Following her father's death, according to mourning traditions, her mother had to observe a fourmonth and ten-day mourning period. During this period Sonia's mother fell seriously ill. This was the time when some family members initially helped them, but unfortunately, this support did not last long. Compounding their difficulties, Sonia's mother lost her eyesight, and their relatives stopped providing assistance. They were left with meager funds from the Benazir Income Support Program (later known as EHSAS). In order to survive, Sonia had to intermittently attend school while also helping other women in her neighborhood to earn food and financial assistance.

One day, when the FRDP team visited Golden Life School to identify orphaned children, they were informed that one of their exceptional students had been absent for several days and that she was an orphan. The team tracked down Sonia's location and visited her home, where they were shocked to find her mother bedridden due to poor health, while Sonia managed all the household chores.



The team had a conversation with Sonia's mother and discovered that they were facing difficulties accessing the funds from the Benazir Income Support Program because the retailer demanded an illegal commission. Additionally, Sonia mentioned that she lacked a syllabus and was unable to prepare for her upcoming exams.

Although Sonia did not fit the criteria for the project due to her age, the team recognized her outstanding performance at school and her dedication to supporting her family. They decided to personally contribute to her cause by purchasing her syllabus and paying for her fees. The team continued to provide support, ensuring that she could sit for her exams. With hope in their hearts, they awaited the results, believing that Sonia would excel in her class.

The FRDP team acknowledges that their Orphan Support Program primarily targets children between the ages of 4 and 12. However, Sonia's story emphasizes the importance of recognizing that every child and citizen, including families like Sonia's, deserve the right to benefit from social safety nets. As a society, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that such families do not face these hardships alone and that children are not burdened with the economic struggles of their families.



#### IT Media and Communication.

The past quarter has presented Humanitarian actors with numerous challenges, but it has also been a highly productive period for the IT and Digital Marketing team of FRDP. First and foremost, the FRDP team successfully finalized the development of the Orphan Support Online Management Information System (MIS). This system is now fully operational, providing an efficient and streamlined platform to view, trace progress made, and support our orphan support programs. Additionally, we launched the smartphone offline version of the program, allowing users to access crucial information even in areas with limited internet connectivity. In terms of marketing efforts, The team dedicated its focus to creating engaging content and bolstering FRDP's online presence to expand reach and visibility. FRDP team produced multiple video documentaries, including one in the Korean language, which garnered an overwhelmingly positive response from our partners and the communities we serve.

We are thrilled to announce that our overall reach and social media impressions have reached an all-time high.Our campaign, titled "Transform lives, share your Qurbani," was designed to resonate with our audience and was executed across various social media platforms and Google. While the Google campaigns did not generate the desired results, we experienced significant success through our social media channels. Our landing page for donations received over 1,000 unique visitors, indicating the effectiveness of our social media campaign and organic reach. Following are some of the statistics from our social media campaign and organic reach:

	A	Ø	Y	in
Reach	1.7m	30k		
Impressions	3.8m		2.2k	
New Followers	473	43		473
Profile Visit	40k	427	386	805
Share	164			
Like and reactions	5.1k			819
Comments	578			
Link Click	15.4k			5

#### **Community Response Mechanism:**

This quarterly report presents an overview of the complaints received and resolved during the period of April to June 2023. Our organization's Community Resolution Mechanism (CRM) remains dedicated to efficiently and effectively addressing the concerns raised by stakeholders, and beneficiaries by adopting the appropriate recommendation to finetune our program design stakeholders. Formerly known as the Complaint Response Mechanism, the CRM was renamed on February 20, 2023, to promote inclusivity and accessibility, expanding the available options for community members to remain in touch at every step of our services and support.

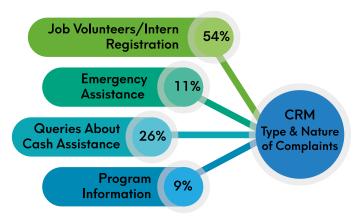
This report highlights the achievements of our CRM team in resolving issues and improving service delivery, community engagement, trust, accountability, and transparency. Our commitment is to promptly address all feedback and complaints, providing beneficiaries and communities with the necessary assistance and resources to enhance their quality of life. Our CRM team documents activities, including trends in complaint types and community feedback, during the past quarter. The community, consisting of individuals, and institutions remains dynamic in accelerating rural development and improving the residents' quality of life.

This vibrant community embodies innovation, resilience, and collaboration as they collectively address the unique challenges faced by rural areas. Through the FRDP, community members have access to a diverse range of resources and opportunities, including WASH, Low-Cost Housing, Renewable Energy, agricultural support, healthcare services, educational programs, and entrepreneurship initiatives. The community actively promotes sustainable practices, encourages local participation, and fosters a sense of ownership and pride. During the period from April 2023 to June 2023, the FRDP community continued harnessing the collective strengths and talents of its members, driving positive change, and creating a thriving rural environment for all its inhabitants. The FRDP along with complaints and suggestions also received numerous Eid wishes from the rural areas, encouraging us to work more effectively on their behalf.

The CRM team has been diligent in addressing the concerns and complaints raised by beneficiaries and communities. Throughout the quarter, we have seen a significant increase in community engagement, with a notable rise in the number of complaints received and resolved. The CRM team promptly responded to each complaint and provided appropriate resolutions. The team also worked closely with community members to understand their needs, concerns, and expectations, fostering an atmosphere of trust and collaboration.

Analyzing the data from the CRM activities during the quarter, we observed certain patterns in the types of complaints received. The most common types of complaints were related to infrastructure issues, such as demand for Water Schemes, and water access. Other frequently reported complaints included the need for Food, Raton, and Cash assistance from nonprogram areas, there were some who reported challenges in accessing healthcare services and educational programs. By identifying these patterns, FRDP is now better to tailor resources and interventions to address the specific needs of the community. FRDP highly values the feedback received from the community during this quarter. The FRDP community members actively shared their thoughts, suggestions, and appreciation for our efforts in improving their lives.

#### **Community Response:**



#### Linking Academia with Practitioners:

FRDP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU with the University of Sufism and Modern Science Bhitshah, This strategic partnership is another step towards unlocking new opportunities for joint programs, career counseling, internships, and action research.

#### FRDP Joins PSEA Network,

FRDP has officially joined the prestigious PSEA Network! Mr. Shahid Ali, our esteemed Executive Director, represented FRDP at the meeting where this exciting partnership was established. FRDP is looking forward to the incredible opportunities the Network will bring, as it enhances our systems and capacities in promoting and safeguarding PSEA across local organizations.

#### Linking Academia with Practitioners:

The Ven. Pomnyun Snim, Chairman, and Ms. Geena Park, President of the Join Together Society (JTS) visited the flood-affected areas of Shaheed Benazirabad and Mirpurkhas districts in Sindh from May 31, 2023, to June 02, 2023.

During this visit, the team assessed the joint initiatives undertaken by FRDP & JTS which included provision of drinking water schemes to over 1050 households in 18 villages. They also met the beneficiaries of recently constructed houses for three widows in Shaheed Benazirabad and monitored the process of Food Pack Distribution in Mirpurkhas District. FRDP jointly with JTS has so far distributed food packs to some 11,300 households in 268 villages. The senior executives from both institutions engaged in extensive discussions and deliberations with the recipients of the above-mentioned initiatives. They identified areas of mutual cooperation and collaboration, charting a way forward for future endeavors. The visit aimed to ensure that the affected communities receive the necessary support and assistance to overcome the challenges posed by the floods. Both of the partners agreed to continue cooperation in WASH and the construction of shelters for flood-affected communities.

#### Core Humanitarian Standards Revision Workshop,

FRDPs Executive Director Mr. Shahid Ali, attended the CHS revision workshop in beautiful Geneva, Switzerland. It is another milestone achieved which shows FRDPs commitment to promoting and supporting the localization of humanitarian aid. The sharing of experiences brought invaluable insights and improvements for local organizations working globally.

#### Launch of URBAN Project

On May 12, 2023, the Urban Food Production project was successfully launched in Hyderabad, Sindh, Various stakeholders participated in the event and discussed the interconnection between urban sanitation and food security. The main objective of the project is to enhance the resilience of impoverished households and marginalized youth in urban neighborhoods.

The launching ceremony was attended by government departments, social representatives, and organizations such as WHH, RDF, and Care International. During the workshop, the significance of urban food systems and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) activities was highlighted. The participants stressed the need for fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among stakeholders. The Assistant Commissioner Ms. Shaista Jabeen graced the event she appreciated FRDP's efforts and ensured her full cooperation.

She appreciated that FRDP is bringing innovative techniques for rooftop and vertical gardening, improvement of drinking water quality, promotion of small-scale businesses, and efficient waste management. The workshop aimed to create awareness about these aspects and encourage their integration into urban communities.

#### FRDP Joins Global Conference.

The Executive Director of FRDP took part in the "Policies against Hunger 2023: Human Rights-Based Approaches to Food Systems Transformations" conference arranged from June-27-28th,2023 Berlin Germany. This event aimed to promote and emphasize the right to food worldwide. Mr. Shahid Ali showcased FRDP's initiatives in localization as a means to enhance food security resilience. He engaged in productive discussions and meetings with various networks, government representatives, local NGOs, international NGOs, academia, the United Nations, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and other relevant stakeholders. The conference was organized by the German Federal Ministry and Welthungerhilfe.



Delegate from JTS visits FRDP



Linking Academia with Practitioners



Core Humanitarian Standards Revision Workshop



FRDP Joins PSEA Network



FRDP Joins Global Conference



Launch of URBAN Project

#### **Recent Publication**



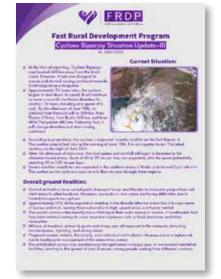
#### SitRep 1

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#### SitRep 2

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#### SitRep 4



SitRep 5





## **Contact Us**

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