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COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: CHALLENGES FACED BY COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19- ATHARA HAZAR

On 31 March 2021, Transparency International Pakistan arranged a Community Dialogue in Tehsil Athara Hazari CHK. 399 with the females of a local village community. The purpose of the gathering is to share COVID experiences and challenges faced by the community particularly women during COVID-19. A total of 16 female participants gathered during the session. The speakers were Ms. Rubina, a private school teacher; and Ms. Afshan who was a social worker. The session was moderated by TI Pakistan representative, Mr. Ashfaq Ahmed. It was discussed that education was badly disturbed by COVID. Children are not accustomed to online education, and they are just wasting their time. Ms. Rashida said that the government should support private school female teachers who are



mostly jobless due to closures of many schools. Ms. Kulsoom who have been working for women economic empowerment highlighted that women entrepreneur supporting their families by doing small business at home have faced financial losses due to economic slowdown. During lockdown, women could not visit hospitals due to COVID fear, while private hospitals charges were out of their reach.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: CHALLENGES FACED BY COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19 CHOBARA

On 29 March 2021, Transparency International Pakistan arranged a Community Dialogue in CHK. 323 T Chobara with the local village community. The purpose of the gathering was to share COVID experiences and challenges. A total of 30 participants gathered during the session. All of them were males. The speakers were Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, X-village councilor; Mr. Shafqat Rasool, a businessman; Mr. Mudasir Ahmed, a schoolteacher; Mr. Mohsin Ahmed, a social worker. The session was moderated by TI Pakistan representative, Mr. Ashfaqe Ahmed. People shared mixed viewpoint.



The participants described pandemic devastating for the education sector and people who are associated with it including children who are the main stakeholders. A participant demanded government to restore the old, elected members of the local government during pandemic so that they could work with communities and give them awareness. In the end, everyone appreciated the efforts of Transparency International Pakistan for providing them such forum to share their experience and raise awareness.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: ACHIEVING AN EQUAL FUTURE

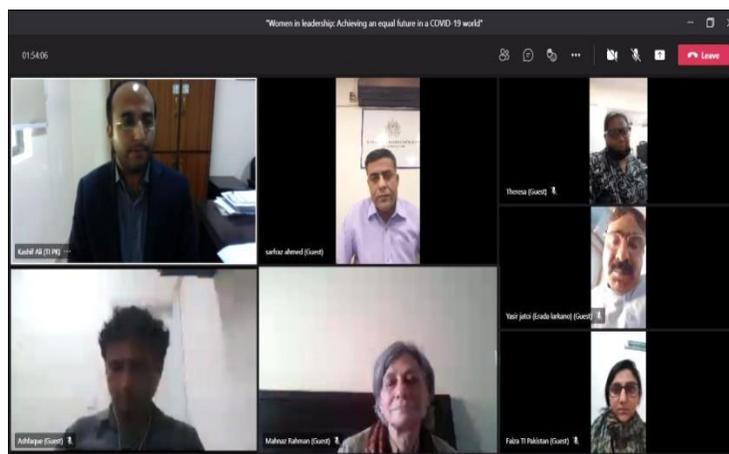
In the wake of International Women Day, on March 10, 2021, TI-Pakistan organized a community dialogue in Teshil Burewala, District Vehari Punjab on “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world”. The session was arranged in a village 435/EB, where 31 females participated in the session and discussed their challenges in this COVID-19 world. The women speakers who represented different segments of society discussed many issues faced by females during pandemic.



Most of the school which were closed during lockdown, their female staff did not receive any pay. They already have a low salary, and in these circumstances, it was very difficult for them to earn their bread and butter. Due to school closure, children faced learning losses. Their routine has been disturbed, and the incidents of their misbehaves and fighting with other children have been increased. When schools resumed, children faced suffocation problems due to keeping up mask. Similarly, women entrepreneurs lost their business in pandemic and demanded government support. An Ex-Local Government councilor pointed out that in the absence of local government system, government aid was not fully disbursed among deserving people.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: ACHIEVING AN EQUAL FUTURE IN A COVID-19 WORLD

International Women Day, TI-Pakistan organized a webinar on the topic: “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world” which was also the theme for this year. It celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The participants who were mostly the women appreciated that our women stand at the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis, as health care workers, caregivers, innovators, community organizers and as some of the most exemplary and effective national leaders in combating the pandemic. The crisis has highlighted both the centrality of their contributions and the disproportionate burdens that women carry.



MOBILE ALAC

On March 4, 2021, Transparency International Pakistan has conducted a free legal advice camp (Mobile ALAC) in Tehsil Matli, District Badin. The session was arranged in collaboration with HAPE Development Foundation Badin. A total of 30 complaints were gathered in which 28 were submitted by males and 02 were submitted by females. Most of the complaints were about poor or no drainage system, unavailability of medicines in government run hospitals, poor conditions of roads, and about a ghost school.



The session was also covered by local print and electronic media. Legal Advisor (Advocate) Mr. Muhammad Fayyaz provided free legal advice to 28 victims and witnesses of corruption. Transparency International Pakistan representative Mr. Ashfaq also attended the session.

