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# Pre-Funding Site Visit Report, Village Nasarullah Sandh, Taluka Chhachhro, District Mithi

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## **Background**

This is an age of modern technology where by dreams can be come true anywhere on the map of the world. Modern technology has touched the sky by inventing amazing things for human development. With the invention of internet world has become globalized, but despite that still humanity is seems at the stage of darkness where people living like in a pre-history era. One can imagine the sketch of life in the deserts where people are isolated from the rest of the world. But modern technology has gained power to transform the standard of life of the desert dwellers in pleasant life. Nature has gifted uncountable things for human being on the globe that he can utilize it to live a prosperous life.

The developed countries benefitting people through utilizing modern technologies, therefore; day by day life goes on safe road. Such an example is of renewable energy or solar energy plants which have gained the ground in most parts of the world. Now, the days are not far when deserts will once again become oasis for humanity. It is practiced in deserts now where solar plants have made life an easy path to water access. Through using renewable energy solar water pump plants can be installed excavating water from the wells or wherever they already exist.

This practice and provision of the water accessibility for living being on the land of desert is indeed a new wave and hope for happy life for the deserts dwellers.

## **Introduction**

The most senior team of the Institute for Social Change including Mr Abdul Jabbar Bhatti, executive director and Mr Zahid Hussain Meerani, Manager Fund Raising and Resource Mobilization visited the village Nasirullah Sandh, taluka Chhachhro, district Mithi on November 3, 2013 to have interaction with community and knowing the scope and feasibility of the proposed project, submitted by AWARE to ADP. As community shared, approximately 115 joint families are resident of this village. Mostly people are engaged into agriculture farming and livestock raring which is the only mean of their livelihood available to them. There are only 11 persons are government employees of different departments including 4 primary school teachers. There are 3 other persons who are addressing their butter and bread by doing private jobs at different locations out of their village.

The proposed village is at distant of 65 km from taluka of Chhachhro in the east-west side of desert.

Umar unar is the nearest market where villagers go and do their business of life, and access to basic food stuffs and other commodities needed to them. Although, it is not well developed market, but all necessary items needed to the people of an area is avail to it. Local four-wheel Jeep was only source of transportation for the people of an area.

Mr Ali Akbar Rahmoo, Executive Director AWARE facilitated us to the villages Nasirullah Sandh and Jan Muhammad Samon. It was far from taluka head quarter and is very near to the Indian border, just at the distance of 20 KM only

### **Meeting with community**

We reached at village Nasarullah Sandh around 11:30 am and started interaction with community, followed by visited site area and observed different things in order to understand the situation clearly. Village was indeed at very distant from taluka head quarter of Chhachro in wide desert towards the Indian border. It is indeed an illusion to think of these areas while keeping the case of deserts where people passing their lives in isolation and likewise in dark ages, and are thankful to God on their existing resources. In this situation there is challenging task to mobilize community to take efforts on their won for their development, but AWARE had done it very well which reflected during the combined meeting of male & female community members.

As shared by the community office bearers, there is reflection center in the village facilitate by AWARE, and based on that center community is doing different activities and taking initiatives for the development of their people and village as well. Confidence of community, Role play they made in front of us, trend of sitting together and sharing everything related to their village to those who are visiting their village first time and prioritizing their issues etc are an outcome of strong social mobilization and long lasting relation with community.

We were welcomed by a traditional way of shaking hands by the villagers and it was a sign of their love and unity. They met in a way as we are the only hope for them to do something for reducing their miseries they have been silently facing since centuries. Hundreds of thousands have passed their lives in desert with these miseries and hardships, but none have come forward for reducing their hardships, except AWARE community shared. During the meeting community organizations of male & female performed a play reflecting how conflicts are arising on water fetching in the village and due to these conflicts how community is facing the challenges. Play concluded that dialogues and table talks are the only solution of their issues.

During the meeting, community organization both male & female representatives gave their presentations highlighting major achievements they have made and critical issues they are facing in the village. Following issues were highlighted in the meeting:

- Sweat and drinkable water
- Health
- Transportation
- Education
- Livelihood etc

As elaborated, water was their top priority issue villagers were facing currently, along with the other issues, as mentioned above.

At the end, we directed our discussion around the questions giving us clear picture of the community, its relation with AWARE, existing water resources, their interests and willingness for the proposed intervention and sustainability of the project etc.

At the end, when asked community members, particularly female were keen to have proposed intervention to be implemented immediately and was willing to contribute in cash as well as in kind, whatever it would be. Few female shared the proposed intervention would be very fruitful for us and could give us opportunity to indulge into other activities contributing to our household income.

### **Existing Water resources**

There are 8 dug wells are available in the village, out of, 6 wells are functional and giving water to the people, whereas, two wells are out of order and are currently non functional. At most all the wells are 365 feet deep into the ground. Mostly, donkeys are used in extracting water from the wells, but sometime 6 to 8 females together extract water from the well, which is very hard and difficult task for them, but they have been doing since centuries. Females and children are the only responsible for fetching water for the house. As shared by the females that 4 to 5 hours are spent in managing household water, and simultaneously, donkeys are looked after and are given food so that they could be used for extracting water next day. There are few households who also give money to someone for fetching water to their homes, as they are old enough to manage their water for domestic consumption.

There is only one well which is located at the height that could be feasible for the proposed intervention. After the discussion we visited the proposed project site which seems quite feasible for the water supply scheme to be channelized into the almost 45 households. Although it would not cover the entire villagers, but most of the households would be able to benefit from the proposed water supply scheme.

### **Need of the project**

People of village Nasrullah sandh have been using drinkable water from their dug wells which they have built at their own cost.

Most of dug wells have been constructed by the villagers, except two which have been constructed by another NGO and by district government.

Much of the precious time of the people goes into extracting and fetching water for their households. One of the females said that huge time is consumed for getting water which is restricting us from being involving into other social and culture activities happening even in the villages. Even, due to that they are not able to find time to send their children to schools and look after them properly. The proposed water supply scheme would support us multi dimensionally and would manifold opportunities for all of us, particularly for women and children to spend their time into different chores and in economic activities in the rainy season.

#### **Proposed Project site visited**

After the end of community meeting and interaction with community, we all together office bearers of male & female community organizations visited dug well from where water supply lines would be taken to each household. First of all, they demonstrated how they actually extract water from the well and then briefed us about the proposed plan of water supply lines. 6-8 persons together were able to extract water from the well; otherwise it is difficult to get water out of it.

Mr Ali Akbar Rahmo briefed saying out of 115 families located in the village, water supply lines would only be reached to 48 families directly benefiting to them, whereas, the remaining families would not be able to get direct benefits from the scheme due to the distance and geographical position where their houses are really built.

#### **Second village visited and replication of interventions in the Dhaba village etc**

After visiting the proposed village for the project, we visited village Jan Muhammad Samon where the same intervention is already installed and fully working with the support of Action aid, Pakistan. We visited that village so that we could have better idea and could be clarified that how it would work properly, because we had confusion/ un-clarity on some points, for instance, water meter on the basis amount would be charged by each house hold etc. So, after visiting that village we could know in depth that how the proposed idea would properly give relief to women and children in the village.

Pictures were captured and then a formal sitting was arranged with the villagers and operator of that solar water pump. An old person belongs to village told us that this is indeed a unique project for us and we never expected to be implemented in our village to have easy access to drinking water. After the installation of this solar water pump we are blessed to have this facility. It cost once time, but has tremendous result for desert areas, an old person expressed.

## Field Findings & Observations

After overall visit, interaction with community and visiting proposed site and other village we are of the opinion that:

- The proposed project is feasible and an innovative in its nature that would improve the quality of life in the village
- Women and Children would save their time to be spending that time into other healthy and income generating activities.
- Amount spent into raring donkeys could be saved
- Mothers would be able to pay proper attention on their children
- School enrollment would be increased, because those children who are not going to school due to water would be able to go to school
- Women and children have enough time to enjoy their lives and participate into other work and cultural festivals and rituals etc