



SUCCESS STORY

On

"Building Brighter Futures"

Restoring Social Services and Climate Resilience Project,
Thatta, Sindh



Indus Earth Trust

Silver Square, Suit No. 402, 33rd Commercial Street, Tauheed Commercial Area, DHA – 5,
Karachi, Sindh

Introduction

The village Yousaf Shoro is located in union council Domani with GPS coordinates N. 24°36'59.06682" E. 67°53'21.00401" tehsil and district Thatta, Sindh with the distance of 23 kilometers from main city Thatta. Village Yousaf Shoro holding 240 households with the population 1605 with 714 women, 891 men. The village areas spread in 200 acres land where 160 acres of land is cultivable. Livelihood is mainly dependent on agriculture and day labour. People engage in agricultural activities, fish ponds, and small enterprises.

The village Yousaf Shoro considered a climatically vulnerable village and highly susceptible to adverse impacts from climate change, such as increased floods, and extreme weather events, often due to factors like geography, dependence on agriculture, lack of adaptive capacity, and poor infrastructure. Village Yousaf Shoro located in areas prone to natural disasters like floods (e.g., river basins), experienced heat waves, and heavy rains. Poverty and limited access to information and services can exacerbate climate vulnerability.

The village Yousaf Shoro particularly vulnerable to monsoon floods, and having their homes destroyed and populations displaced. Impacts on farming and agriculture, which are central to many vulnerable households, can lead to food insecurity and economic hardship.

Poverty Mapping

Total Household	Poor Households	Ultra-poor Households	Non-poor Households
240	188	40	12

Social Mobilization

Indus Earth Trust strongly believes in social mobilization process that helped assessing needs within a community, designing a strategy with clear goals, building relationships with community leaders and organizations, training mobilizers, creating and disseminating information, implementing activities, and monitoring progress to ensure community participation and ownership. This initial phase involves engaging with the community, often through social mobilizers, to build trust and raise awareness about the potential of collective action.

Indus Earth Trust formed village organization at Yousaf Shoro village, this participatory process aims to empower villagers to lead and sustain their own development initiatives by building strong, self-reliant village organizations (VO) capable of addressing local challenges and leveraging available resources, often with external support from development organization. Indus Earth Trust encouraged the VO to network with other community organizations and government institutions to share resources, advocate for their needs, and foster broader development.

Indus Earth Trust also federated with four community organizations in VO and provided training and education to enhance the skills and knowledge of community members, strengthening the organization's overall capacity and management.

Village Development Planning

A village's socioeconomic and physical needs are determined through a participatory approach used by Indus Earth Trust to establish the Village Development Plan (VDP), which serves as a roadmap for short-, medium-, and long-term development. It entails gathering information, mapping resources, establishing objectives, consulting with the community through meetings, determining the need for outside assistance, and developing action plans that are prioritized for funding and execution. In order to increase the village's general prosperity and well-being, the objective is to promote community involvement, make the most of available resources, and lobby for assistance. A cooperative and locally-driven approach is ensured by the process' active participation of citizens and community institutions' VO and COs in problem identification and solution development.



The second most common concern expressed by participants during the VDP process was the dilapidated state of the village's sole school, which requires rehabilitation.

Problem Statement

At Yousaf Shoro Village, in poor shape the local school is having issues with its very bad building, lack of electricity, clean water and toilets, which leads to low-quality education with few resources. Frequently, these problems are connected to more general problems such as poverty in households, making children work, and inadequate facilities in schools. Support from the community and government is needed to address these complex concerns in order to give resources, upgrade facilities, and guarantee a positive learning environment in the village school.

Lack of services is one of the many issues that lead to high school dropout rates. Some parents might not understand the value of education, especially in low-income households, or they could feel pressured to put other needs first. Students' chances of developing personally and being economically empowered are greatly limited by this circumstance.

Why is the PPAF Programme important to the individual/family/community?

With an emphasis on restoring essential social services and fostering climate resilience, the Restoring Social Services and Climate Resilience Project is a Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)-funded project that is being carried out in several districts throughout Pakistan to aid communities in their recovery from climate-related disasters in 2022. The project's main goal is to

repair damaged community physical infrastructure, like schools, Dispensaries, irrigation systems, and retaining walls, in order to save lives, livelihoods, and property.

The Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)-funded "Restoration of Social Services and Climate Resilience Project" was given to Indus Earth Trust for district Thatta. IET carried out a baseline survey and focus groups, and VDP gave damaged schools top priority for building rehabilitation. This included fixing the bathrooms, providing basic furnishings, supplying energy using a solar system, and supplying drinking water.

Why did PPAF become involved in the area? Encourage participants to tell you, in their own words, why the project is important to them and their community.

Since its inception, the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund has served the coastal communities of Sindh through a variety of development initiatives. Heat waves, riverine floods, and erratic heavy rains were among the natural disasters that frequently struck the climatically sensitive Thatta district. PPAF evaluated the poverty level, natural catastrophe frequency, and climate change factors, such as salinity, sea level rise, and sea intrusion, in the Thatta district. The Restoration of Social Services and Climate Resilience Project is evidence of PPAF's desire to create climate resilience and solve issues pertaining to their social services.

Community Quotes

1. Mr. Ghulam Nabi Shoro – A dream comes true. Thank you PPAF & IET.
2. Mr. Muhammad Juman Shoro – Everything is possible if community together.
3. Mr. Muhammad Bukhsh Shoro – I hope community will enroll their Children.
4. Mr. Mumtaz Shoro – I am very happy to see beautiful school.
5. Ms. Aamina Panhwar – My children are easily go to School due availability of water & Electricity.
6. Ms. Zulekhan Shoro – I will send my daughters to school. Paka Promise.
7. Ms. Janata Khatoon Shoro – My children will be educated and get Jobs.
8. Ms. Sharoo – Now my children are safe in the new school.
9. Ms. Hanifa - My child got the school bag and going happy to school.
10. Ms. Najoo – My children are sitting on the ground but now on the desks.

At the school inauguration, Mr. Abdul Hameed Panhwar – Chairman District Council Thatta addressed parents, community leaders, and village organizations about the importance of enrolling girls in school and facilitating their education, and he praised the initiative as a significant step towards promoting quality education and improving learning environments for students in Yousaf Shoro Village.

He praised the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund and the Indus Earth Trust for their collaborative efforts in equipping the boys' school with a solar power system, WASH facilities, tree planting, and a conducive learning environment.

How has the participant's life changed through involvement with the PPAF program? How have their families' lives changed?

Participation in the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) program has improved access to education, decreased social exclusion, and promoted girls' enrolment and School-based Disaster Risk Management (SBDRM) for children enrolled in school. These initiatives have had a significant impact on the lives of participants and their children.

Their families have benefited from these developments as well, with improved education standards, increased self-esteem and dignity, and less reliance on private schools. People are better able to access basic services like schooling and are more prepared with DRR skills because to RSS&CR's project advocacy and community empowerment.

As participants are given more ability to shape decisions and obtain better services for themselves and their kids, families benefit from more educational opportunities.

Retrofitting of School Building with Basic Amentias

Indus Earth Trust is remodeling the school in Yousaf Shoro Village, UC Domani. IET has renovate the school building and furnish it, provide energy through the installation of a solar system, ensure WASH facilities, and plant trees in the school.



Parents and School Committee members are attending School Inauguration Ceremony at Yousaf Shoro, Domani Union Council, District Thatta, Sindh.

School-based Disaster Risk Management – SBDRM

Indus Earth Trust held training and awareness sessions at schools for children, teachers, and school staff in Yousaf Shoro Village. These sessions focused on the concept of School Based Disaster Risk Management (SBDRM), which aims to train teachers and school staff in School Safety Management in Natural Hazards, as well as the development of a School-Based Disaster Risk Management Committee. Indus Earth Trust also held an awareness program for school children about the effects of climate change on our everyday and future lives, as well as climate change adaptation.

School Bags Distribution Ceremony

The Indus Earth Trust organized a "School Bags Distribution Ceremony" at Domani and Tando Hafiz Shah union councils in Thatta. The ceremony's primary guest was the Honorable Mr. Hazoor Bux Khaskheli, District Education Officer DEO, Thatta.



Tree Plantation Drive at the Village School Yousaf Shoro

The Indus Earth Trust organized the "Tree Plantation Drive" with school students, and parents, at the school of Yousaf Shoro village.

The event was honored by the Chief Guest, Mr. Abdul Hamed Panhwar Chairman District Council accompanied with Mr. Noor Muhammad Sarai, District Education Officer Education (DEO) Primary Thatta, and Sindh Government dignitaries; Mr. Mumtaz Ali Bijoro, Deputy District Officer Primary (DDO) Thatta, Mr. Khuda Bukhsh Behrani, Deputy District Officer Social Welfare Thatta, Ms. Mehreen Iqbal Soomro, Child Protection Officer Thatta, and Ms. Farhana Khoso, Assistant Director Social Welfare District Thatta.



Their community's life? Ask the participant to compare life before the program and life now. Ask how they envision the future.

Mr. Zaheer Shoro, a schoolteacher, said, "Handing over the newly developed school significantly changed the quality of school life of the students and teachers." School life in the old, damaged school building was dangerous; the roofs of the rooms were in such poor condition that all the time the students and the teachers were seeing the roof instead of focusing on the teaching and learning, no basic facilities were available, and the majority of the girl students went to their homes for toilet use. No safe drinking water available, no electricity, which created an unpleasant environment for the students in 45°C.

Many times, we requested the authorities for the challenges that were faced by students and teachers, but unfortunately, we didn't receive a positive response; the situation became worse with devastating floods in 2022. The poor infrastructure collapsed, and the boundary wall of the school fell. The school building was underwater for many weeks.

Chairman of the School Teachers & Parents Committee (STPC), the committee will act as a focal point for collaborative projects and shared duties between educators, parents, students, and other interested parties, guaranteeing group participation in sustainability activities. In order to educate other village parents about enrolling children who are not attending school, STPCs will hold sessions with parents regarding the significance of school sustainability.

The committee helps implement the school's Environmental Sustainability Plan, diversifying the accountability for environmental goals by involving various community members in their execution. Organizing parents and teachers to donate trees or participate in planting flowers and trees to create a school park. STPC support the school's transformation into an engine for holistic community development by promoting a shared vision for a sustainable future.

Mr. Ghulam Nabi Shoro – President Village Organization said, by involving the community in school sustainability includes waste management and tree planting, conserving local culture, offering resources and advocacy, and encouraging a sense of shared accountability for the school's long-term environmental and social well-being, village organization help schools become more sustainable. In order to make a long-lasting difference in the local environment and culture, VO serves as a link between the school's sustainability initiatives and the larger village community.

Village organization can help the school's sustainability by organizing volunteerism, finance, and local resources. Village organization promote the school's sustainability by gaining the backing of community members, funders, and local authorities, guaranteeing the institution's survival and long-term sustainability.

Enrollment of the Students old enrollment was 85 students 50% were absent due to school situation, after the retrofitting of the school the enrollment has been increased with new 25 students in just one month after handing-over school.

School "Before" & "After" Status at Yousaf Shoro School





Inauguration and Handing over Ceremony of Primary (Mix) School – Yousaf Shoro, Domani Union Council, District Thatta.



Conclusion

Date: 8th August, 2025

Mr. Aijaz Ali Abro
Chief Executive Officer
Indus Earth Trust
Karachi

Subject: Appreciation for the Retrofitting of the Primary Boys School at Yousaf Shoro, Union Council Doomani, District Thatta.

Dear Sir

I want to sincerely thank the Indus Earth Trust for the completion of the retrofitting of the boys' primary school and much appreciated Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund – PPAF for its financial support under the Restoring of Social Services and Climate Resilient Project.

The village organization VO Yousaf Shoro, and the school teaching staff were consulted by Indus Earth Trust over the building's renovation, the installation of a solar system that includes ceiling fans, and the lighting system that is placed in the building and classrooms. The school's WASH facilities have been restored, which is a fantastic effort that will encourage kids to attend class on a regular basis. We are genuinely motivated by your exceptional efforts and your desire to positively influence our children's futures.

Your support is invaluable to our communities, and we are deeply appreciative of the hard work and dedication of Indus Earth Trust (IET) and Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF). We would be delighted to keep you updated progress on the enrollment and are happy to provide further information on the impact of your support at your convenience. We would also welcome any opportunities to collaborate in the future.

Your commitment and passion are truly inspiring, and Indus Earth Trust is making a tangible difference in our community.

Sincerely,



Mr. Zaheer Shoro
Head Master
Primary Boys School
Yousaf Shoro Village

