

### **King Development Organization (KDO)**

King Development organization is a small organization of Hakim Bharat which was reactivated in 2009 by CMDO for development activities. It was previously a small disorganized organization however CMDO, with its professional social mobilization expertise initiated the re activation through series of capacity building trainings. The organization is now volunteering to play a key role in development of the area. KDO has facilitated the implementation of on the revitalization of Hakim Baharat BHU through physical refurbishment, provision of furniture, and staff training. This was a practical opportunity for the CBO in institutional development as well. The BHU is now functional and serving the people of the area. CMDO is providing continuous backstopping support to the organization in its activities, including monitoring of the BHU and other state facilities.

The members of the CBOs played an active role in the evacuation, rescue and protection of the flood affected population, livestock and belongings in Raqeeb Bharat in July-August 2010. These people were evacuated, provided food, beddings, and shelter. This also proved effective in the establishment of liaison within this community. The second test of KDO was in repairing the road and providing wooden makeshift bridges for access which was badly affected due to the floods. The leadership of KDO contacted the DCO who submitted a summary for a one km road and two bridges with ridges/dykes to the provincial government and had it approved.

With polio getting out of control in the province and several cases in the area, and fear of new cases on account of the several old and new challenges faced by the polio campaign including reluctance of parents to allow the provision of drops to their children, the leadership of the KDO has resolved and acted to work all-out for the eradication of polio and influence the locals through awareness and education for the intake of the polio drop by their children. It has worked with refusal cases and convinced a number of refusal cases for the administration of polio drops to their children. KDO was successful in influencing religious leaders and parents and enabled the provision of drop. A well represented /attended meeting was organized by KDO to influence religious and community leaders, and parents. There was full realization that polio is a new threat and the meeting resolved to help the program/campaign and continue till the eradication of polio. KDO was proactive enough to meet and talk to the EDO health for free medical camps and mosquito nets and he obliged and sent the nets to BHUs which the staff of KDO distributed house to house. Approximately 1100 number of nets were distributed amongst the locals.

Cognizant of the lack of education, including that of the girl children and women, the leadership of KDO resolved to influence both the community for the education of the girl children and women but also talk to the relevant quarters for the construction of girls' schools in the area. The CBO approached the Chief Minister and got approved the construction of Girls High School. This school is now under construction and is soon expected to be ready for classes.

KDO has also been successful in influencing and facilitating people of the area in having registration with NADRA for CNIC to use the right of vote. Due to the lack of education and awareness on rights and entitlements the people of the area are generally unable and/or reluctant to get a CNIC and be registered as voter with the Election Commission however this phenomenon is most acute in case of women who usually do not have CNIC and voter registration. This has placed generally the entire community but especially the women at great disadvantage in terms of availing state facilities and exercising their right of vote. KDO conducted a survey of women for voter registration and forwarded a case for the registration of 2000 women with NADRA and election commission.

KDO is a unique example of grassroots volunteerism, activism, an effective local level leadership, and an improved ability to speak for their rights, entitlements, and mobilization of resources for grassroots development. This is evidenced by the contribution to the cause of development in its community through the establishment of affective community liaison, making easy access to the government functionaries to seek their right, appropriate cognizance of major UN led programs such as polio and malaria, understanding their challenges and working with them.