

United Action for Human Development (UAHD)

Annual Report 2014

Summary:

UNITED ACTION for Human Development (UAHD) is a registered nonprofit organization under the Social Welfare Act of 1961. UAHD has been dedicated to empowering marginalized communities in rural Sindh, including **Jacobabad**, by promoting sustainable development through practical and innovative solutions.

A key initiative by UAHD is the **Fuel-Efficient Stove (FES)** program, which has made a significant impact on improving health, reducing environmental degradation, and enhancing the livelihoods of women in rural communities. Through this initiative, UAHD has introduced cleaner, more efficient cooking methods, addressing the challenges of traditional stoves.

2. Key Intervention: Fuel-Efficient Stove (FES)

The **Fuel-Efficient Stove (FES)** program, launched in 2012, has been implemented in **UC Mubarkpur Thull** and **UC Ahmedpur of Jacobabad**. To date, **3 Fuel-Efficient Stoves** have been installed across **5 villages** in UC Mubarkpur and **3 villages** in UC Ahmedpur. This initiative has positively impacted hundreds of households, providing a cleaner, more efficient cooking solution that significantly reduces the consumption of firewood and the harmful emissions produced by traditional stoves.

3. Health and Hygiene Sessions

In addition to the **ToTs**, **UAHD** conducts **Health and Hygiene Sessions** as part of the broader community development efforts. These sessions are designed to raise awareness about key health issues, hygiene practices, and the environmental benefits of using the **Fuel-Efficient Stove (FES)**.

Objectives of Health and Hygiene Sessions:

- **Promote Good Health Practices:** Educate community members about hygiene practices that reduce the risk of diseases, especially waterborne illnesses and respiratory infections.
- **Highlight Environmental Health:** Emphasize the health benefits of using the FES, such as reduced exposure to smoke and harmful emissions, which contribute to respiratory problems and other health issues.

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- **Promote Healthy Cooking Habits:** Share information on the importance of using clean and efficient cooking methods to reduce contamination and health hazards in the kitchen.

Through these sessions, **UAHD** has effectively reached out to hundreds of families, especially women and children, who are the most affected by poor health practices and traditional cooking methods.

5. Awareness Sessions

UAHD has also organized **Awareness Sessions** to raise public consciousness about the environmental and health hazards of traditional stoves. These sessions are conducted in partnership with local community leaders, health practitioners, and other stakeholders, helping to spread crucial information about the importance of sustainable cooking methods and their impact on family health and the environment.

Objectives of Awareness Sessions:

- **Environmental Awareness:** Inform communities about the negative impact of deforestation, the overuse of firewood, and the environmental benefits of switching to **Fuel-Efficient Stoves (FES)**.
- **Health and Safety:** Raise awareness about the health risks associated with smoke inhalation and the benefits of cleaner cooking solutions.
- **Community Mobilization:** Engage community members in adopting environmentally friendly practices and taking collective action to improve their living conditions.

These awareness sessions have led to increased community participation in the **FES** program and greater acceptance of healthier, more sustainable cooking methods.

6. Conclusion

The **Training of Trainers (ToTs)**, **Health and Hygiene Sessions**, and **Awareness Sessions** are critical components of the **Fuel-Efficient Stove (FES)** initiative by **UAHD**. These efforts not only promote the adoption of a cleaner, healthier cooking method but also empower communities with the knowledge and skills to improve their overall well-being.

By integrating these training and awareness programs, **UAHD** has made a significant impact on both the health and environmental conditions of rural communities in **Jacobabad**. The combined efforts ensure the sustainability of the **FES** program, create long-term benefits for women and families, and contribute to broader environmental conservation.

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Pictorial view:



Fuel efficient stove construction