

## **My Skill is my Weapon for a Better Livelihood**

The district Dadu has a rich history of its culture and trends since its existence in the province. Despite, it is one of the cities of the Sindh province where crime rate is higher than other cities. Most of the population of the district belong to tribal areas, hence disputes over petty issues are very common, and especially matters of gender based violence.

Oxfam GB, which is one of the international NGOs conducted a research with the support of CSSP by research study of PPVA in 2014; the research was to investigate gender based violence in the district Dadu.

The important finding collected locally from the specified district was disseminated that around 90% women are directly or indirectly assaulted in their daily routine lives. The females are confined in different cultural barriers; they are compelled to live in an isolated environment. There's a highest ratio of unskilled and uneducated women available since there are no opportunities of education or training allowed or provided to them.

This is a case study about a member of the Effective Citizen Group (ECG); *Ms. Basheera Janwri*, daughter of Muhammad Ishaq from Najam Colony which is situated in the Dadu City. Ms. Basheera is a 28 years old woman who has good skills of tailoring. When first time she got opportunity to interact with the CSSP team; her circumstances were very poor and her family was compelled to live a vulnerable life. The CSSP team took efforts to mobilize and convince her to utilize her skills to start work for better livelihood of her family and also for the betterment of the society. She was highly inspired and motivated and expressed her willingness to do something. She also simultaneously started meetings with other fellow women who had no any skills. Ms. Basheera offered her services to help them to learn tailoring. Eventually, the lady achieved her goal; 47 females of the Mohalla agreed to join her for learning technical skill of tailoring.

On the other hand, she also remained in touch with the Social welfare department to register her ECG group as an organization. Through the registered organization, she intends to start an

institute on self-help basis where coaching classes will be provided to local females of the area. It is true & commendable that Ms. Basheera has created a wave in stagnant water but the story doesn't end here, it has become a ray of hope to look forward to a prosperous future of women empowerment.